

Tories in need of reform

Joe Clark's recent comments on campus serve as a reminder that Harper's Conservative party still has a long way to go towards achieving real unity



PATRICK
ROSS

party was forged through the merger of the Canadian Alliance and the PCs, a need to resolve the different traditions of each was forced upon Stephen Harper.

The Canadian Alliance, through its roots in the Reform party, was a populist party, a tradition whereby the state is held to be responsible to the will of the people.

A party capable of governing in the best interests of the people, with a populist undercurrent to act as a brake on elitism, could become a valuable force for social change in Canada

The Progressive Conservative party, on the other hand, was built upon the British Tory tradition, an aristocratic approach wherein the people are believed to have a more organic relationship both between each other and with the state through their traditional allegiance to the crown.

But it doesn't take a PhD in political science to realize that the Reform party's populist traditions and the PCs Burkean foundations aren't necessarily compatible. This is the high wire on which the party must walk.

Over the past four years, this tension

has rarely been so obvious as when the Conservatives have been in government. While the 2005 defection of Belinda Stronach—who acted as a mediator between Harper and then-PC leader Peter MacKay in creating the modern Conservative party—was an earlier warning sign of this tension, little verifies it as thoroughly as the more recent expulsion of Halton MP Garth Turner from the Conservative caucus.

Turner, who had previously served as a Cabinet minister in Kim Campbell's PC government, was known to be ill at ease with what he often referred to as "hats and horses" Conservatives, a label clearly meant for the members from the former Reform party. Many credit this tension as one of the principle causes for his suspension from caucus and disqualification as a future Conservative candidate.

While resolving these differences in political culture would be challenging, the reward would be well worth it. A party capable of governing in the best interests of the people, with a populist undercurrent to act as a brake on elitism, could become a valuable force for social change in Canada. While it remains to be seen whether or not Harper is up to the task—arguably, his performance to date hasn't quite been inspiring—the Conservative party could become such a party.

Unfortunately, capable leaders like Joe Clark have always lacked the political imagination to realize this.



FILE PHOTO: JOSH NAULT

WHEN I WAS FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER ... Joe Clark gives the young whipper-snappers of today a little lesson in the ways of small-c conservatism.

future senior vice president, marketing



Your future starts now. At Safeway, the possibilities are endless. It starts with an environment where everyone's contributions matter, an excellent training program, flexible work schedules and, of course, the best advancement opportunities. Because it's not just about work, it's about working your way up. Link your future to the Safeway team.

Apply now at safeway.ca or at your local Safeway store.

SAFeway 

Red light for the Green Party

Elizabeth May doesn't stand a chance against Peter McKay in Central Nova



ELIZABETH
MCMILLAN

Last week Green Party leader Elizabeth May announced her intention to run in Central Nova, NS—Peter McKay's riding—in the next federal election. Well good luck, I say, because constituents there will pick MacKay over an upstart environmentalist any day.

While May's confidence is commendable—she's running head-first into the Conservative Party's golden boy—her tactic is political suicide. Having grown up in PEI, I can tell you that politics in the Maritimes is a blood sport. You're born into either a Tory-blue or Grits-red legacy—it's as simple as that. And when party lines run that deep, you need a lot more than cheery optimism.

This is not to say that May is unqualified. A member of the Order of Canada, she holds a law degree, was awarded two honorary doctorates and is nationally recognized for her environmental work. She's also the author of several books, including 2006's *How to Save the World in Your Free Time*. No one said she wasn't ambitious.

May first ran in Nova Scotia in 1980 at age 25, back when she still worked as a waitress. She challenged then-deputy prime minister Alan J MacEachern in the nearby riding Cape Breton Highlands-Canso. May alluded

to this past attempt recently by taking a stab at her opponent, stating that, "To be brutally honest, Peter MacKay is no Allan MacEachern."

May made her announcement from the Tall and Small Café, an independently owned Fair Trade coffee shop home to local hippies and students in the heart of Antigonish—easily the most left-leaning part of Central Nova. May told the small crowd, "This where I am from and this is where my heart's at, and I wanted to run where I am comfortable." Not surprisingly, May found a receptive audience at a liberal refuge in what is an otherwise traditional conservative riding.

In Atlantic-Canadian discourse, she's still 'from away,' meaning she is, and will remain, an outsider.

But to many constituents, May isn't at home in this region, because she never lived in Central Nova. While she grew up on Cape Breton Island, she was actually born in the US. In Atlantic-Canadian discourse, she's still "from away," meaning she is, and will remain, an outsider. In contrast, MacKay comes from a wealthy farming family in the region—one that also happens to lead a local political dynasty. MacKay's father, Elmer, held the seat for Central Nova from 1971–1993, and many constituents still vote for "Elmer's boy."

What's more, the Green Party has virtually no presence or credibility

in Central Nova, or the rest of the Maritimes that matter. Last January, the Green Party registered just 2.6 per cent of the vote in Nova Scotia, compared to 5.5 per cent nationally. In Central Nova, Green candidate David Orton received 671 votes—a mere 1.6 per cent. This doesn't exactly make for an environmental hotbed.

Even if May already had a strong national presence, it's unlikely she could mobilize a victory based on her position as a figurehead for a party that has no seats in the House of Commons. Perhaps May's only hope is that she can capture the NDP vote and convince Liberals to support her platform to come in a healthy second place.

Unfortunately, May will lose simply because it will be too much for the majority of the population in Central Nova to vote for an untested female candidate running for a party that still holds connotations of pot-smoking hippies, idealistic environmentalists, troublesome protesters and outspoken students.

Central Nova still thinks it needs MacKay and that Atlantic Canada needs a high-profile Cabinet Minister to prevent Ottawa from forgetting them completely. This isn't entirely without merit. But what the people of Atlantic Canada also need is a government who will acknowledge the crippling effects of a high unemployment rate, faltering social programs and the potential devastation on an agriculture- and fish-based economy if the environment doesn't become a priority.

Don't try telling that to the backroom boys of local politics, though: they made up their minds the day they were born. Better luck next time May.

LETTERS ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Mimsy adaptation nothing but Jabberwocky

(Re: "Mimsy preaches a dull environmental mantra," 22 March). Perhaps it is my inner geek that is writing this letter, but I am surprised that not a single reviewer of the film *The Last Mimzy*, including that by Maria Kotovych, even mentions that this film is adapted from a very famous science fiction short story ("Mimsy Were the Borogoves") by Lewis Padgett. Then again, considering the horrible adaptation by [director] Robert Shaye, the film is not at all recognizable as having anything to do with the original story.

Sadly, reviewers like Kotovych have missed a golden opportunity to point readers in the direction of the original story (which can be found in almost any "Best of" Science Fiction anthology). "Mimsy Were the Borogoves" stands as one of the seminal classics of the genre and I for one am depressed and astonished that such a famous work should be so badly adapted to film (the only recognizable feature is the toys from the future) and perverted to make some sort of "environmental statement" while trotting out the spectre of terrorism so popular these days.

These themes are not only inane but gratuitous, representing modern cinema's inability to do anything other than pander to the lowest common denominator and attempt to seem socially conscious at the same time.

Padgett's work, on the other hand, has much to say on the nature of childhood, the inherent intelligence of children, the way that adults often dismiss the wisdom of children and their views of the world, as well as extremely clever references to Lewis Carroll. A more intelligent and careful adaptation of "Mimsy" could have

produced a great film that would have delighted both child and adult audiences.

As for Edmonton's film reviewers' inability to mention the source of this dull piece of fluff: shame. [Though] Padgett's story is credited at both the beginning and end credits, even a cursory Wikipedia search would have yielded enough material to satisfy science fiction fans and provide a context with which to properly critique the film.

DAVID NICKLIN
Arts XVII(!)

Curve system doesn't make the grade

I was a graduate student here at the University. I decided to come here after hearing about the school's reputation and programs. To be honest, I do not like how grades are given and recorded.

Like almost every student here at the University, I have worked extremely hard. Not just to be the best that I can be, but to get into other competitive programs. I performed quite well, earning high marks in all my courses. However, my joy was turned into great frustration when I saw that all my grades were curved to a rather mediocre, uncompetitive letter grade according to the University's grading scale.

I believe that the transcripts should (at the student's request) show the percentage mark as well. This would show how well the student accomplished certain objectives, not just how he ranks in comparison to other students. This way, the reader of the transcript can determine how "good" the student is, instead of assuming his competence based on a letter grade.

[This] is being done at McGill University: the student is given a numerical and letter grade, as well as the class

average from which anyone can interpret achievement in their own way.

Many professional schools consider a B+ to be mediocre if not the minimum allowable grade for admission. But how can someone who achieved a 90 per cent be considered mediocre? Why should he be penalized based on what others have achieved on a curve? The basic purpose of a University is to foster learning, not competition. I believe that the way grades and transcripts are created at this University encourages competition, rivalry, jealousy and secrecy—all of which are detrimental to learning and against the very core philosophy of a university. Many of the students and instructors that I have spoken to agree with this.

Please at least consider allowing percentage grades to be included in our transcripts at our request. This will at least give professional schools or graduate schools an idea of the amount of effort a student personally puts in, as opposed to where they stand in a lineup. It will not cost any more to print the transcripts, but will make a world of difference to us, the students at [the] U of A.

FAIZAL KASSAM
Graduate Studies

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, sent via carrier owl or e-mailed to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study and student identification number to be considered for publication.

Paul Lorieau's University Optical



Free vision test
with purchase of lenses or complete eyeglasses

4 3 3 - 5 5 0 0

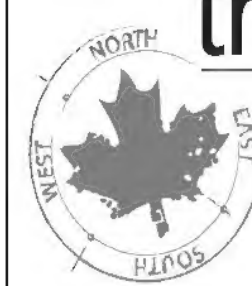
Conveniently located at 11170-82 Ave Edmonton AB T6G 2L8



volunteer to welcome the world!

transitions

INTERNATIONAL
STUDENT
ORIENTATION



Apply now for August volunteer training
www.international.ualberta.ca/transitions



UNIVERSITY OF
ALBERTA
INTERNATIONAL

international centre

9101 Sidewalk Level HUB • phone 780.492.2692 • fax 780.492.1134
www.international.ualberta.ca • email: international@ualberta.ca

SUBtitles

Main Floor SUB Regular Hours: Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm
ph: 492 – 9744 Saturday 11am – 4pm

used textbooks and much more...

Buy, Sell or Consign Texts • UofA Crested Clothing & Merchandise
• Framing • Custom Screen Printing and Embroidery

BUY, SELL OR CONSIGN TEXTS

{other services include} • **UoFA CRESTED CLOTHING AND MERCHANDISE**

• **FRAMING**

• **CUSTOM SCREEN PRINTING AND EMBROIDERY**



for further information, visit www.su.ualberta.ca

Powering up the 'Plant

From extreme makeovers to extreme shut-downs, our team of experts offers up four distinctive visions for what to do with the poor old Powerplant

Paul Knytl

It's sad to see that people are giving up on the old girl. Take it from someone who's been at this university for too long: the 'Plant used to be amazing—and it still can be. So why should we keep it open? For one thing, this city is losing venues for live music. While I believe that Edmonton has great local talent, the recent closure of Sidetrack and other venues should make us all protective of the ones still around.

The 'Plant also provides a conveniently located space for student groups to get together. For example, come in on a Thursday night to find the German and Scandinavian clubs (among others), getting drunk and facilitating intercultural exchanges—it's tradition. So let's provide a discount to student groups and encourage their regular use of the joint.

Love it or hate it, the 'Plant is a classic and unique student space. Far from inhospitable or warehouse-esque, I find its open-concept layout, with the beautiful red brick, exposed roof trusses, and mezzanine, both appealing and inviting. So how can we save the place? Restore people's confidence in the 'Plant experience. The number-one complaint I hear from people is the shitty service. They love the

location and prices aren't bad, but the service ranges from barely passable to eating a shit-sandwich.

The solution? Fire the old staff (sorry), hire new—and for god's sake, train them! And abolish the union: ask any decent server or bartender you know and they'll tell you that while their base wage sucks, they more than make up for it in tips—something that

comes about when you make your customers happy.

We have to keep absorbing the 'Plant's losses until it gets back on its feet—it provides a service to the student body and the city as a whole. Instead of abandoning a campus institution, let's see some real action and real solutions, not just gimmicks.

Maria Kotovych

What's the one thing that's missing from campus? The SUB stage occasionally pretends to be one; student clubs create makeshift ones in classrooms and lecture halls. Yes folks, I'm talking about a movie theatre. The Powerplant is an awesome venue for concerts, but is there a concert every night? No.

Turning the 'Plant into a movie theatre on nights when there's no live music would be a great way for this cash vortex to start generating a bit of revenue. Currently SUB stage offers weekly movie nights, and these always draw a crowd. But background noise from the cafeteria can be a problem for those trying to enjoy the film.

An even bigger problem is that the main floor of SUB isn't licensed for alcohol. And many students wouldn't mind paying a few dollars to enjoy an ice cold beer along with their free movie. And since it looks like Coke is here to stay, students who like drinking that sludge and don't want to booze it up can enjoy a beverage with their movie as well. Throw in some french fries or popcorn (because salty foods make people buy drinks, and this makes bar owners happy), and you've got yourself a nice night out.

Student clubs and organizations that want to show movies or organize parties or other events could use the space as well. Of course, the 'Plant would have to ensure that student clubs got the space for free (or at a discounted rate, at least) in order to make it an attractive venue for student groups to hold events. With people buying food and drinks during club outings, the 'Plant could still make a profit, which is certainly better than watching it turn from a leaky bucket to an overturned slop pail.

Jonn Kmech

The Powerplant has been a lost cause for several years now, but no one at the SU has had the *cojones* to admit it. As someone who's only been on campus for two years, I can tell you the stigma currently surrounding the establishment in the eyes of today's U of A student is too significant to overcome.

While I agree that the city is losing concert halls, we need to think about the musicians too. Isn't it fair to give them an audience? The Powerplant can't be sustained simply as a concert hall—there's no parking, which makes it less inviting to the general public, and the negative stereotype surrounding the building has caused venues like the Starlite Room and the lately departed Sidetrack Café to pull in the majority of prominent small-venue acts, which in turn pull in the crowds.

The image surrounding the 'Plant for the last few years has left it with a decidedly graveyard-like aura. First impressions mean everything, and when I went through Orientation almost two years ago, the overall impression that I got was that the Powerplant was definitely not the place to be. In my two years here, I've been there a total of three times, and I've never overheard anyone say, "Hey, let's go to the 'Plant on Friday night!"

It just isn't cool in the eyes of the new student generation anymore, and every incoming wave of students is going to develop the same ideas as long as that attitude dominates popular student opinion.

Unfortunately, the Powerplant is stuck in a never-ending cycle of pass-the-buck arguments. I would venture to guess that the majority of U of A students want *somebody* to do *something* with it—just somebody who isn't them. Anyone who does try to take the necessary risks gets shut down. Chris Cunningham's hookah idea was odd but novel, and could have sparked interest in the building that may have led to more solutions.

But, to continue losing money, the SU blindly chose to stay the course, as any deviation from their "vision" of cutting the largest possible holes in the pockets of students just doesn't jive. But as long as this status-quo mindset is maintained, the 'Plant will keep suffocating.

Victor Vargas

The Powerplant needs a huge makeover. Right now it looks like an emo goth punk that cuts himself at night because he's being mocked by all the popular kids. And it doesn't help that its older brother, RATT, is sitting on his high horse laughing it up with them.

Let's face it, darkened bars are nice; bars that look like they came out of a Wes Craven movie are bad.

We need to take some sledge hammers to the roof and begin bashing out holes for skylights. Let's then take that whole buffet part and light it on fire—it was a mistake and it needs to go. Then we need to go through the tables, the glasses and even the floor, and cheer it up a bit. People go to the Powerplant to be happy—not to get more depressed.

It also needs a new identity—preferably one that isn't just, "Hey, you're drinking in a former power plant." Hudsons

(formerly known as Scholars) has its library; the Elephant and Castle chain has that British pub feel going for it, and RATT has an amazing view of the city. The Powerplant needs something that will define it in its own right—I say we take advantage of all the international students and put a world theme to it. Let's have flags draped everywhere, some international beer, and menu options for people ranging from vegetarians to those who don't drink for religious reasons.

But looking nice is only part of the answer. Something needs to be done about the music, because the 'Plant's music is crap. I usually bring money for the jukebox just to play something that wasn't popular during the Great Depression. Either it needs a better play list, or we need to tie it into a radio station that will at least sound interesting—satellite radio, perhaps.

When all these changes are done, the last thing needed is for every student at Orientation to be marched through that bar and told that it's the most iconic bar on campus. Orientation is the best advertising we have at our disposal, yet we never seem take advantage of it in this way.

As you can see, a little hard work is all that's needed to turn the 'Plant from a nerdy kid that can't ask a girl out into a walking stud-muffin that's having a party every day.



Stop the spread of syphilis

Alberta is facing an outbreak of infectious syphilis.

Over 200 cases of infectious syphilis were identified throughout the province last year; a 40% increase from the previous year.

Anyone who is having unprotected sex, outside of an exclusive, single partner relationship, can contract syphilis. People of all ages face the risk.

Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infection that can cause serious health consequences. It can be detected with a simple blood test and is treated with antibiotics.

What you can do to prevent the spread of syphilis:

- Practice safer sex with the use of a condom.
- If you think you may have been exposed to syphilis, talk to a health professional about having a syphilis blood test.
- For more information, call the STI/HIV line at: 1 (800) 772 2437.



For more information, visit:
www.health.gov.ab.ca

JOB OPPORTUNITY



Marketing Manager (Mat Leave)

Century Casino Edmonton is seeking to recruit a temporary Marketing Manager to manage and support the Marketing requirements of the Casino, Hotel and Dinner Theatre. This is a one year vacancy commencing in May of 2007.

Requirements include:

- University degree or equivalent combinations of education and work experience.
- Ideal candidate will have 5 to 10 years related experience.
- Demonstrated experience in a senior marketing role.
- Must have a good understanding of computer hardware and software.
- Must have solid report writing and verbal communication skills (essential).

Qualified Individuals are invited to submit a covering letter along with a current resume.

Applications will be received by:
Facsimile at (780) 669-7169
online at www.cnty.com
e-mail at hr.edmonton@cnty.com
or by mail 13103 Fort Road, Edmonton, Alberta T5A 1C3

THIS IS SIMPLY A PICTURE OF A WOMAN
EATING A VANILLA ICE CREAM CONE.



SURE, SHE'S ATTRACTIVE. SULTRY, EVEN. BUT SHE
IS ONLY EATING IT BECAUSE IT TASTES GOOD AND
IT IS HOT WHERE SHE HAPPENS TO BE.

Old Spice

KEEP it
CLEAN.



Three guys walk into a comedy club...

They say that dying is easy, but that subject themselves to the potential for a room of strangers. But The Comic Strip on their Hit or Miss Monday roster to knock 'em dead—or maybe just suffer. The lineup: Steve Smith, who has shaped Scott Lilwall, the only surviving member Renfree, whose recently released album



Steve Smith

Is the idea of applying incest repellent to prevent your cousin from hitting on you funny?

That this question had assumed considerably greater urgency than the effects of global warming meant that I had entered phase two. Phase one began just after I agreed to offer up my dignity at The Comic Strip's Hit or Miss Monday, and was characterized by the realization that absolutely nothing I ever said or thought was funny. Eventually, that realization was superseded by the total inability to tell what was or wasn't funny—phase two. It was here that I found myself now.

When I'd heard that the Gateway was doing a feature on what it's like for a rank amateur to engage in acts of stand-up comedy, I immediately wanted in. Being an egomaniac, I have an unrequited love of the spotlight and, basically by process of elimination, I'd always figured that stand-up was my best chance to romance it.

The first joke came easily: I had found the idea of Clamato juice made from real clamatoes hilarious since I had first dreamed it up in the shower

on the morning of a high-school debate tournament. From there, it's a short leap to, "I'm all for technology, but..." and (presumably) status as a legend of stand-up.

It was a somewhat greater leap to a second joke.

Still, I eventually reached phase three, which was marked by a tendency to think that my stuff was actually pretty good. It was as if somebody had noticed that my quality filter wasn't letting anything through, so he turned it off all together. I filled my routine with jokes about rape, necrophilia and performing anilingus for money. Mae West once remarked that it was hard to be funny and clean; I wasn't even trying.

At about 4pm on the anointed day, phase one returned with a vengeance. I became suddenly convinced that my Clamato joke was lame and my rape joke gratuitous. Alas, there was no time

to write new material, so against my better judgment—a phrase that, in my case, has always sounded damning by the faintness of its praise—I showed up to the club.

The first spectators arrived, and I noted some discomfort that most of them were middle-aged and looked as if they had respectable jobs. When I'd worked a severed penis joke into my routine, I'd imagined delivering it to a bunch



Being an egomaniac, I have an unrequited love of the spotlight and, basically by process of elimination, I'd always figured that stand-up was my best chance to romance it.



Scott Lilwall

Marty Feldman, revolutionary English writer and comedian, once said, "Comedy, like sodomy, is an unnatural act." Unfortunately, Ol' Crazy Eyes forgot to mention the other similarity between buggering and funnery—the first time is incredibly painful.

If I had been privy to just how daunting it is to try and make strangers chortle, I probably wouldn't have agreed to taking a shot at stand-up. Or perhaps I would have agreed anyway—it was at a Christmas party, and libations flowed freely.

While I cannot be sure of my state of mind when I said I'd take part in the misadventure, I distinctly remember the feeling of stark terror that struck me about three hours before showtime. After all, there's quite the difference between being funny in print, or mildly amusing at parties, and going on stage. These were strangers. There would be a microphone. Failure wouldn't only be public, but would be literally be done under a spotlight.

Just before leaving for the show, Gateway Editor-in-Chief, Matt Frehner, offered me a few

words of encouragement.

"You're probably going to be the least well-prepared one there," he said.

So, with images of booing crowds and tossed tomatoes rattling around in my mind, I travelled to West Edmonton Mall with my compatriots. As much as I would have liked to say that Frehner was wrong, I couldn't. I had the basic idea of what I was going to say, but I didn't have it down word for word yet. Even worse, I wasn't even sure if what I did have was funny. Luckily, I had a number of close friends with me, the kind of people that I was comfortable asking the important questions.

"So, guys, do you think I should start off with the 'Giant Spider Exposes Itself' joke, or the 'Vagina Camera?'"

I got mostly non-committal grunts from my entourage, but the woman sitting to the right of me did get up to move to another seat farther

away, so there was extra elbow room. That was nice.

We were shown in and spent a few minutes sitting at one of the tables. I remarked to fellow comedian-wanna-be Steve Smith that I was too nervous to drink, and then instantly made a liar out of myself by downing two beers before we made our way to sign up for the comedy roster.

Before we knew it, the night's entertainment



Luckily, my mind didn't have to factor in the fact that the club was kept moving, retelling the stories that had begun. Steve was scheduled as the first former of the evening. While Renfree and I told Steve that it might be a blessing in disguise, I think that we were both just secretly glad neither of us would be offered up on the first.



Andrew Renfree

People—friends and colleges who've gotten to know me—are always telling me I'm funny. I've heard it for a while now. Often the discussion goes, "You're funny, you should do stand-up sometime."

When I first heard this, I thought, "Now that's a steaming load of bull." There's a big difference between making some of my drunk friends laugh when I tell a stupid story at a party and getting up on stage in front of total strangers. Yet repetition has a strange influence on one's thoughts. When people tell you should try stand-up enough, it begins to permeate your subconscious and a small part of your brain thinks, "Hey, maybe I could be a comedian someday."

Clearly this is the part of the brain not connected to reason or logic in anyway. It's the same part of the brain that gives you crazy ideas when you're drunk, like, "Sure, I could wrestle a bear." It's also the part of the brain that persuades males to shoot first and ask questions later when using their penises.

This part of the brain can become quite

convincing. So much so that it drowns out the rest of the brain that's yelling, "Are you retarded, you can't do stand-up; you're a bumbling idiot!" By the time I ran the idea past Scott that he and I should try an amateur comedy night, the reasonable part of my brain had been tied up in a closet with duct tape muffling its opposition.

Once Scott, fellow Gatewayer Steve Smith and I convinced ourselves that we'd done stupider things, we set out finding a local comedy club that would let three people who had no experience perform for paying customers. We got a, "Are you kidding? If we let amateurs go onstage we'd be bankrupt," response from a couple of the club owners, but the Comic Strip in West Edmonton Mall welcomed us with open arms—provided we give them a shout-out in the Gateway.

Monday, 26 March was the big night. We were

slated to perform amongst a mix of newcomers and experienced comics in an attempt to tickle some funny bones. I always thought an open mic night meant everyone was a rookie so it was a little intimidating. In fact, this general uneasiness that I might suck sank in about an hour before the show. It felt like I had eaten an expired burrito from a convenience store.



The host told us we have five minutes which isn't much time. I can barely get an erection in five minutes.

When I realize the other guys were as nervous as I was, I decided a couple of Alexander Keane's finest bottles of courage would help. We waited about half an hour before show time. I kept reminding myself that I only had five minutes for my routine, which isn't really long at all. I can barely

comedy is tough. Not many people are damaged enough to
very public failure by agreeing to take up a microphone in front
Strip, West Edmonton Mall's resident comedy club, made time
give three Gateway writers the chance to get up on stage and
a slow demise under the spotlight.
and his habit of eating inappropriate objects into a media empire;
of his Vietnam War squad sketch-comedy troupe; and Andrew
m of animal sounds has already gone triple platinum.

PHOTOS BY MIKE OTTO

udg- wait much longer, I might be too drunk to
been perform.
wed As if sensing my concern, the host told me that
I'd be first.
with "Thanks," I said.
ldle- "Plft," my sphincter said, as it released the con-
jobs. tents of my bowels into my pants.
to my The host did a routine to warm the audience
ch of up. I'd asked him to make it a terrible one. He

quited love of the
f elimination, I'd always
nance to romance it.

uni- haunted by all the comics who had died on that
yers stage was very funny).
it as My time on stage is a blur. As I went through
s far my rape routine, I made eye contact with a
ade a lady in the front row who definitely didn't find
efore it funny, but it drew some laughs from else-
ians' where in the room. Several of my other jokes,

was Steve, of course, had the audience laughing
utes with his simple, offensive cures for all of soci-
etes ills. The applause that he was getting were
allow for jokes about genitalia and performing indecent
s far acts for money; this made my act about living in
ade a Saskatchewan seem charmingly idiotic. More
efore beer was required to drown out my fears.

At least I had a good buzz going by the time
the emcee introduced me as being an old friend
of his from the Vietnam War. I had my mind

or much into it. My lips
t I had told at parties
times.

per- stand. So there was no one on guard to stop my
both mouth from speaking into the microphone with-
uise, out my expressed consent.
that "Just to get it out of the way before anyone asks,
altar my nickname in Vietnam was 'Big Tits.'"
There was a pause as I stared out, wide-eyed,

my dick and get an erection in five minutes. We
were also told when the red light above the stage
came on to get the hell off and that was about
all we got for an introduction to the world of
comedy.

Waiting on the left of the stage with the other
comedians was the most nerve-racking part. Steve
was the first performer and he set the bar high
by making the audience crack a few times. Scott

es for our routine,
find my dick and get an

I was the eighth performer of the night but it
went by quick. When it came to my turn, I forgot
what I was going to say for a moment, but I ran
over my routine while the host introduced me.
Okay, ready to go. When the host said my name,
a rush of adrenaline flowed over me. Once I

including the Clamato one, seemed to fall a little
flat. Before I knew it, my five minutes were up
and I was shaking the host's hand on the way off
the stage to scattered applause.

Going first at least allowed me to enjoy the
rest of the evening in a non-panic-stricken
state. Some of the amateurs—including both of
my fellow Gateways—were pretty good, and
some of them were terrible ("So did any of
your fathers beat you when you were kids? Mine
did. Ha ha!"). After years of being told that self-
deprecation wasn't inherently funny, I began to
believe it.

The host had a loud and distinctive laugh that
he graciously directed at anything that appeared
intended as a joke but wasn't getting a good recep-
tion. I was grateful that I hadn't recognized this
pity laugh for what it was when it had popped up
during my set. A few people approached me to
tell me they'd enjoyed my routine. (I wondered
where they had been during the Clamato joke,
when I really could have used their support.)

"Thanks," I said. "Incidentally, do you think
the concept of incest repellent is funny?"

into the audience, trying to register what had just
happened. Luckily, the audience seemed to enjoy
it, so I was able to cover it up as if I was just simply
pausing for laughter. My mind was racing, won-
dering where I was going to go with this next.

Luckily, my mind didn't have to factor much
into it. My lips kept moving, retelling the stories
that I had told at parties and over RATT burgers
hundreds of times. My hands busied themselves
with wrapping around the mic cord, a habit
that my friend later told me made it seem as if
I was going to rip the cord out of the wall. My
eyes mercifully focused right on the stage lights,
blinding myself to the fact that there were people
watching me.

I didn't regain my sight until I was off the stage
and sitting back down at the table. That's also the
point that I started breathing again. But, I hadn't
choked, and I got a few laughs. A few of the
comedians came over to tell me that I had done
well, including Dino Di Filippo, manager of The
Comic Strip. Steve and I later told him that it was
easier to do than we thought it would be.

"It isn't hard work," he laughed. "It's a joke."

grabbed the mic, the lights were so bright that I
couldn't really make out the audience's faces so I
found it easy to start my routine off with a bang:
a rant about Anna Nicole Smith's constant media
attention.

I carried on the loud obnoxious routine
throughout and it went fairly well, I think—after
all comedians like Sam Kinison and Denis Leary
made their careers being loud and obnoxious.
Partway through my murder capital of Canada
joke I forgot the punch line, but that was only
for a second. Any longer and I would have peed
myself up there, but I managed to finish off with
jokes about life in an office without incident.

As I left the stage the host said, "The Gateway
needs to start doing background checks," which
made me smile more than anything else that
night.

Being on stage was a rush that's hard to
describe: an odd mix of nervousness and adren-
aline. I'd definitely do it again, hopefully next
time minus the queasiness beforehand. And
maybe I'll go easy on the yelling.



Curling, golf to be added as 'self-funded' varsity sports

ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI
Sports Staff

While the University of Alberta has added students and buildings at an unyielding pace over the last decade, the number of athletic teams that the school's fielded has remained relatively constant. Only women's rugby, tennis and women's hockey have been added in the past ten years.

Compared to that sluggish expansion, next season is going to seem like an explosion of growth for Alberta athletics as both men's and women's golf and curling join the Bears and Pandas family, bringing the total number of Alberta teams to 25.

However, as a result of a new policy adopted by the department of Athletics in November and approved by the Physical Education and Recreation's Faculty Council in February, neither of these new sports will receive direct funding from the University. That's because the new policy has divided athletics teams into three categories: core funded, minimally funded and self-funded, with both golf and curling falling into the last category.

"It's safe to say that any new teams that we bring on would be in that non-funded category," Alberta athletics director Dale Schulha said. "[Golf and curling] are there now, and there's nothing to say they couldn't become core-funded programs, but we would have to be in a financial position to move them to that situation."

While the addition of curling as a sport has been expected for two years since the CIS announced it would become a national championship sport beginning in 2007/08, the addition of golf was unexpected. According to Schulha, the existence of a combined college-university Canadian open championship and its willingness to become a self-funded program made the decision an easier one for the Athletics Department.

"We've had proposals from both of them, especially golf, for the last couple of years," he said. "For us to accept them, they've had to come forward and give us their program plan [and] their budget plan, and they'll have to generate their own dollars."

"But we will provide them minimal administrative support," Schulha

added. "Obviously we have to run our eligibility [checks], and if they were any scholarships and awards, we'd have to run that through our office."

In addition to golf and curling, the only sports not to be included in the core-funding category are the women's rugby and tennis programs—both of which are minimally funded. However, as Schulha is quick to note, none of the 17 teams the Athletics Department categorizes as core-funded can be called fully funded. University funding covers only what is needed to allow teams to meet their Canada West and CIS commitments. The teams themselves must cover through fundraising extras (or extended budget items), like non-conference travel, special equipment and extra meal money on the road.

"Right now, we're not in a financial position to move anyone else into core-funded; in an ideal world we'd have all of our teams in that position," Schulha said. "We'd also have core and extended budgets together and say that's what it costs us to run our program and allocate all that funding, but we're not there."

ALBERTA'S THREE-TIER SYSTEM

Tier one sports include basketball, volleyball, football, ice hockey, field hockey, wrestling, cross-country, track and field, soccer and swimming. They must be CIS championship sports, nationally competitive and have strong alumni and community support. The University

covers all Canada West and CIS commitments for these teams.

Tier two sports are rugby and tennis. These teams must come up with some of their funding on their own, but the University will cover some of the team's

cost. They must also be either be CIS or NAIA championship sports.

Third tier sports are self-funded and include golf and curling. These sports must have a postsecondary championship and secure additional competition.

Self-funding the way to go for new sports



NICK
FROST

Sports
Commentary

While it took many years, and much prodding from the teams involved, the University of Alberta Athletics Department has finally decided to bring men's and women's golf and curling into the fold to compete under the Bears and Pandas monikers. With the announcement also came the decision that the two new programs would have to fund themselves. This means various fundraisers and drives in order to cover not only various team expenses—out-of-province travel, accommodations, etc—but also their commitments at both conference and national events. For other teams, these would generally be covered by financial assistance from their university. In an ideal situation, it would, obviously, be nice to be able to share at least some of the wealth amongst all of our varsity clubs; however, because some programs are indisputably stronger and provide more of a reputation to the University than others, it's only fair that the new guys get the short end of the stick when it comes

to receiving money from the Athletics Department.

For either team to receive any money from the University, funding would have to be removed from other programs. The concern here is that the high profile squads—more specifically, Alberta's numerous championship-winning basketball, hockey, soccer and volleyball teams—would see reduced funding and in turn reduced performance in order to accommodate the upstarts. Removing funding from the various teams that already have an established presence in both the Canada West conference, and in the national rankings—close to or at the top of the CIS on a seemingly annual basis—only serves as a step back for Alberta. The guarantee of having money would probably make the smaller, lesser-known programs more prepared for success, but it wouldn't necessarily make them more popular than they currently are, or show results for a few years, and so there's no real immediate benefit to providing these teams with money, especially not at the expense of the teams that combined for five national medals this year.

Looking long-term, it even seems doubtful that any of what the Athletics Department has dubbed "self-funded" teams would be able to make a substantial enough impact that would convince the higher-ups to provide

them with any sort of funding. For example, despite winning championship after championship in the last near-decade, the women's rugby team—added in 1999—is still not fully funded, lacking among other things, a full-time coach employed by the University. Even though the team has had an extremely high success rate, their exploits have garnered little attention and haven't really done anything drastic for the Alberta athletics program. And because they've already hit the highest echelon of success in their particular sport, yet still haven't received any funding for it, it's unlikely to think anything they could potentially do in the future would give the Athletics Department a significant enough reason to provide them with further funding.

Despite all this talk of money, though, having curling and golf on board can only make Alberta's athletic arsenal stronger. While some may look at these two particular sports and consider them somewhat-fringe sports in comparison to more popular varsity options—or, at least, look at them and wonder who's really going to care either way how either team performs—it's important to remember that by becoming varsity teams, the four teams will have much more support than they would have as club teams—even if it's not in a monetary sense.



FILEPHOTO: TARASTIEGLITZ

NOW MORE THAN A CLUB Starting in 2007/08, golf will be a varsity sport at the U of A instead of club. Of course, they'll still have to fund themselves.



LAUREN STIEGLITZ

I WANNA RIDE THE ZAMBONI The Drake is in need of some new technology, like seats with backs attached to them.

Aging rink in need of facelift

Clare Drake Arena’s 48 years old with aging equipment, but renos are coming

ANDREW RENFREE
Sports Staff

Flo Macapagal, Guy Crosswhite and Monty Wood work miracles with the resources they have at their disposal. These three make up the facilities team at Clare Drake Arena, and they use aging technology—some built in the 1960s—to keep the University of Alberta’s only hockey rink operating.

“We don’t have proper systems here; we’re still back in the early ’60s in terms of some of our technology,” Crosswhite said. “You always hear about these guys comparing our arena to Rexall, saying Rexall has the best ice—they do because they have all the best equipment. You could take the best guy from Rexall and bring him over here, and I’ll make you a deal—it’ll be no better if he uses our equipment.”

Considering the amount of activity in the building, the Drake is likely one of the most used arenas in Edmonton. Recreational skating, figure skating, hockey classes, Bears and Pandas games and practises are all part of a regular week. Compared to most city arenas, or even Rexall Place, which sits unused all day with the Oilers on the road, the Drake’s ice is constantly taking a beating, so it’s a challenge to keep it in good condition at all times. The work of the facilities crew is often a thankless job, but throughout their 60 years of combined ice-making experience at Clare Drake, they’ve heard it all, from compliments to criticism.

“I think who it is depends on what they think of the ice. You could go into the Bears dressing room, and you’d

get half saying good and half saying bad. You’ll get one guy that says it’s terrible and the next guy the best ice he’s seen all year,” said Wood. “You can’t please everybody, so you try and find that middle ground and run with it and hopefully you make everybody happy.”

Pandas hockey head coach Howie Draper noted that while Clare Drake isn’t perfect, he feels it’s one of the better arenas in Canada West.

“The ice is a little soft because it’s a warmer arena, but I think that works out to be an advantage for us because you get used to it, and teams come in and play on your ice surface; it may be a bit of a shock and slow them down a bit,” Draper said, adding that the playing conditions may have contributed a bit to Alberta’s success over the years in this building.

“History is the first thing that pops into my mind when I think of Clare Drake Arena,” Draper added. “Success is another key word. You look around the building and see all the pictures and banners, and the history of success is evident.”

The facilities guys take pride in that strong tradition of hockey programs that Clare Drake Arena has housed over the years. It’s one of the reasons they love their jobs despite the challenges of working with an older building.

“People always say to me how come you’ve stayed here 19 years?” Crosswhite said. “It’s because I love the program—I’m one of the biggest fans of the Bears and the Pandas; I watch every game.”

About a year ago, students voted against plebiscite question that asked

students to partially fund a new Physical Activity Complex (PAC) with a new student fee. The plan called for either a complete renovation Clare Drake Arena or a brand new 3500 seat arena built at a cost of \$25–\$30 million. More concerned with recreational skating and intramural hockey, students opposed an additional \$40 fee, which would have funded the new arena and other new facilities. The implication is that if a new arena does become a reality at some point, funding will have to come from private donations or sponsorships.

John Barry, Director of Capital projects at U of A, said the No PAC vote was a letdown for the Athletics Department, and the focus is now on renovating the Drake.

“What Clare Drake is going to get is a little bit of rouge and lipstick,” Barry said. “The plan now is to upgrade Clare Drake Arena until we can get a new one. We have replaced the floor, boards and glass already, but the ice plant was built in 1960 so we need a new one. We also need new amenities: locker rooms, bathrooms, concession areas and also replace the seating with actual seats with backrests.”

Admittedly, minor renovations are only a Band-Aid solution, so for now the facilities crew must wait and make due with what they have.

“We always say, until we can walk into it, make some ice in it or drive a Zamboni around it, it’s all just pipe dreams,” Wood said. “We’ve heard a lot of rumours over our 18 years about what may or may not be done around here, so we don’t get our hopes up.”

DECONSTRUCTING THE DRAKE

- The U of A Varsity Arena was built in 1959 and it was renamed Clare Drake Arena on 1 June, 1990 in honour of Alberta’s most prolific coach.
- The rink was renovated in 2003 and the boards and slab under the ice were redone.
- It currently seats 2700 people.
- Clare Drake is one of the few CIS arenas to still use paint for the logos and lines on the ice, as most have switched to paper, which is more convenient but doesn’t look as sharp. The Bear and Panda logo take half a day to paint and the lines take a full day.
- The quickest the facilities crew can get full ice coverage from concrete is 48 hours. This would be round-the-clock work with no sleeping, but they have done it before when necessary. Typically, the process takes about a fortnight to be completed.
- The rink is more rectangular than rounded in the corners. A decision was made when the rink was renovated that if it was modified to be like an arena with a normal radius in the corners, that it wouldn’t be unique anymore.
- The penalty box cuts into the visitor’s bench, making it shorter. Some players on the visiting team have to sit in a second row back with the coaches. The Bears and Pandas have room to sit on one bench, though.

SPORTS VERY SHORTS

by Paul Owen

Hockey

Friday nights usually see Campus 5–0 and Listerites squaring off, but this Friday

will see the two do battle not on the streets of the University, but the ice of Clare Drake Arena.

The two squads will compete in their annual charity hockey game, with the proceeds going to the Mayerthorpe Fallen Four Memorial Society. The game starts at 8pm, and tickets are \$3. They hope to raise \$1000 for the cause, with the majority of that being raised through admission sales.

Curling

The U of A men’s curling team came back from the Canadian University Curling Championships in Winnipeg from 21–25 March with a silver medal. The soon-to-be Golden Bears lost to Manitoba in extra ends. The strong finish bodes well for the team as they become a varsity squad next season. One of the necessities is to be competitive, and the men’s curling squad is certainly that.

We’re on our way to Edmonton with
\$200,000
in VFS scholarships

APRIL 8 AT 2:00 PM SHARP!
DELTA EDMONTON CENTRE HOTEL
10222 102 STREET

VFS™

Join Vancouver Film School on tour!
Hear about our programs, see
award-winning student work, and come
prepared to apply for scholarships exclusive
to Western Canada Roadshow attendees.

For details and to RSVP visit vfs.com/roadshow
Or call 1.800.661.4101 EXT.4013

GRADUATING?

4 Things You Need To Know...

1. The real world can really suck, but you’ll get used to it.
2. Travel CUTS sells grad trips. Yes, you’re in debt, but you’ll get used to it.
3. Gift Certificates. Someone you love is ready to buy you one, but you’ll need to ask them.
4. Travel CUTS is not just for students. You can save money with us forever. Over 65 locations across North America and a website that’s ready to serve.

Students’ Union Building
U of A 492-2592

HUB Mall, U of A
492-2756

TRAVEL CUTS
Canada’s Student Travel Experts

www.travelcuts.com
1-888-FLY-CUTS (359-2887)

If you ask this sciencetician
He will tell you
The BLACK DOG
is a sensible part
of any healthy diet

Last year, the St Louis Cardinals went 83-79 yet took the World Series. Their opponents in the final—the Detroit Tigers—were only three years removed from a historically bad 43-119 season. Major League Baseball (MLB) can be almost impossible to predict, which is why we’re going to do it, and highlight some of the major storylines to watch in the 2007 season along the way.

A feature by Trevor Phillips, Nick Frost, Ross Prusakowski, Ryan Heise and Paul Owen



SPRING TRAINING

With Opening Day on Monday, the *Gateway's* expert panel pitches itself into the swing of the baseball season

DIVISION PREVIEWS

National League East

Last year, the Mets finally found a way to top the Atlanta Braves and win the division—all it took was over \$150 million in team salary—and they’re the favourites to win it again. New York came one win away from their first pennant in six years and are bringing back essentially the same group, but look out for 2006 NL MVP Ryan Howard and the Philadelphia Phillies. Manager Charlie Manuel has taken this team within one win of the post-season the last two years, and with Chase Utley and Jimmy Rollins up the middle, the Phils should contend again. The Florida Marlins were a breath of fresh air last season, but after NL Manager of the Year Joe Girardi was fired, this team doesn’t look to be as competitive as last season. They still have the best crop of young talent in the bigs, though. And don’t forget about the Washington Nationals and the Braves; though they’re in rebuilding years and their pitching looks like the turf at Olympic Stadium—thin and patchy—they still have pride.

- 1) New York Mets
- 2) Philadelphia Phillies
- 3) Florida Marlins
- 4) Atlanta Braves
- 5) Washington Nationals

American League East

As it was last year, a three-team race for first will emerge from this division with the Boston Red Sox, New York Yankees and Toronto Blue Jays all seeming to be legitimate contenders. After making a couple significant pick-ups in the off-season, the Jays should be able to improve upon the 87-75 showing they had in ’06, giving the Yanks and the Sox an even greater run for their money. However, if Toronto’s pitching staff can’t stay healthy, either of the other two will have an easy ride to a playoff berth. Both teams have suspect pitching, but their batting lineups are the best two in baseball, with stars like Alex Rodriguez, Hideki Matsui, Bobby Abreu and Jason Giambi forming the heart of the Yankees. Boston counters with Manny Ramirez, David Ortiz and off-season acquisition JD Drew. Once again, the Baltimore Orioles and the Tampa Bay Rays will pose no threat for the division title and will likely finish below .500. Both teams are stocked with young talent, but not enough of it can pitch to turn them around.

- 1) New York Yankees
- 2) Toronto Blue Jays
- 3) Boston Red Sox
- 4) Tampa Bay Rays
- 5) Baltimore Orioles

National League Central

The St Louis Cardinals have been to the World Series the last two years, and are the defending champs, so winning the weakest division in baseball should be a snap. They still have the best pitcher in the division, Chris Carpenter, and the best hitter in all of baseball, Albert Pujols, but need both to stay healthy. Right on their heels will be the Houston Astros and Chicago Cubs. The ’Stros have big bats in the outfield in Lance Berkman and Carlos Lee, but will need to hope Roger Clemens chooses them again this year to compete. The long-suffering Cubbies, meanwhile, revamped their roster with big free-agent signings in Alfonso Soriano and Ted Lilly. The Cubs spent a lot of money this off-season, but it won’t end their 88-year title drought. The Milwaukee Brewers don’t have the pitching to contend, and neither do the Cincinnati Reds, though the latter could be a potential. Bringing up the rear are the hapless Pittsburgh Pirates.

- 1) St Louis Cardinals
- 2) Chicago Cubs
- 3) Cincinnati Reds
- 4) Houston Astros
- 5) Milwaukee Brewers
- 6) Pittsburgh Pirates

American League Central

While top of this division could still be seen as a four-team race, the Minnesota Twins will be hard pressed to put up another division-winning record, with 2006 standout pitcher Francisco Liriano out of the lineup for the entire season. Thus, expect any of the Detroit Tigers, Chicago White Sox or Cleveland Indians to take it. The Tigers—coming off of a World Series appearance, and now with the bat of Gary Sheffield in their lineup—seem to be an early favourite; although, one can never count out the batters in the middle of Chicago’s lineup, like Jim Thome, Paul Konerko and Jermaine Dye, providing the solid hitting that the Chi-Sox will need to contend. Cleveland boasts a solid rotation, but it’s less talented than the Sox’s and Tigers’ staffs. The Indians do have the best hitter in the division, as DH Travis Hafner is coming off a ridiculous season that saw him put up 42 homers in an injury-shortened season. The hapless Kansas City Royals won’t improve their standing this year pitted against four of the toughest teams in baseball.

- 1) Detroit Tigers
- 2) Chicago White Sox
- 3) Minnesota Twins
- 4) Cleveland Indians
- 5) Kansas City Royals

National League West

The only saving grace of the division might be the Los Angeles Dodgers, possessing the best rotation in the division with the trio of Derek Lowe, Jason Schmidt and Brad Penny, who’re a better combination than any five-man group any other team can boast. At the other end of the spectrum lie the Colorado Rockies. With a popgun offence that looks better than it is thanks to Coors Field—and wasn’t even that impressive at home last season—and a rotation that, while improved, is still mostly young and untested, the Rockies are destined to be bottom-feeders once again. The Arizona Diamondbacks will be hot on their heels in the race for the bottom though as they’ll struggle with youth and general inconsistency. The rest of the division will be a jumble as the others teams fight their own problems. For the San Francisco Giants dealing with the Barry Bonds show and old age will keep them from challenging LA. Only the San Diego Padres have a chance, but they need their hitting to catch up to their pitching if they want a pennant this year.

- 1) LA Dodgers
- 2) San Diego Padres
- 3) San Francisco Giants
- 4) Arizona Diamondbacks
- 5) Colorado Rockies

American League West

The American League West reads like one big question mark; there isn’t a sure thing in the division. Reigning champs Oakland have lost ace Barry Zito and comeback player of the year Frank Thomas to free agency and haven’t added anybody to compensate. The Texas Rangers still think that offence wins championships over pitching, even though that strategy hasn’t paid off in a decade. The hitters they do have are in decline, and Mark Teixeira, Hank Blalock and Michael Young will need to return to 2005 form for the Rangers to have any hope of contention. The Anaheim Angels think that Shea Hillenbrand will solve their hitting woes—he won’t. And the Seattle Mariners, well, if they stay healthy, and Richie Sexson and Adrian Beltre return to form, they could surprise, but blue-chipper Felix Hernandez needs to breakout. Overall, there doesn’t seem to be a World Series contender in the bunch and more “what ifs” than “should bes.”

- 1) Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim
- 2) Oakland A’s
- 3) Texas Rangers
- 4) Seattle Mariners

Around the Horn

The New Jays

It looks like GM JP Ricciardi has finally shed his *Moneyball* roots and decided that spending is the way to win. Besides giving franchise player Vernon Wells the biggest contract in team history, Ricciardi did what no other GM dared—give Frank Thomas a raise. The Big Hurt is coming off a huge year that saw him slug 39 homers and earn the Comeback Player of the Year award. Still, with his history of injuries and the turf at Rogers Centre, Thomas will have a tough time duplicating last season. Ricciardi also signed an aging John Thomson and injury-plagued Mets cast off Victor Zambrano to shore up the rotation, veteran defensive whiz Royce Clayton to fill the gap Russ Adams couldn't at short, and Sal Fasano to backup Gregg Zaun behind the dish. All in all, the acquisitions don't inspire much confidence and the hopes of the Jays reaching the post-season for the first time in 14 years remain faint.

The surly home run king

After an up-and-down 2006 season that started with a slump and turned into four solid months of sub-par performance, Barry Bonds has opted to forgo retirement and sign a one-year, \$15.8 million contract with the San Francisco Giants.

While the 42-year-old is surely out of his prime, this season has him only 21 home runs shy of Hank Aaron's career record of 755. Bonds has previously stated that he doesn't care about breaking the record, but amidst last years accusations of steroid use and getting over knee surgery from 2005, it's hard to believe that he isn't back to take a final run at it.

Will Bonds break Hank Aaron's 31-year-old record? Probably. But it will be more interesting to see how the media and league handles it. After all, MLB refused to acknowledge the Large-Headed One when he passed Babe Ruth for second all-time, and Bonds has always been truculent with the media. He once berated a reporter in a press conference saying, "Next question, because it was stupid."

Where is the Rocket aimed?

There's only one man in baseball that can say he'll play only half a year and still have teams clawing at one another to win his services: Roger Clemens. This year, there are a handful of teams vying for the opportunity to land the future Hall of Famer for a mid-season run—probably because he posted a 2.30 ERA at age 44 last season. Though Clemens hasn't decided if he will return or for which team, the chances of a late May or early June Rocket launch is highly probable. The most likely destinations are the Red Sox, Rangers, Astros and Yankees. Of these four, the Yankees will likely make the biggest push. With the departure of Randy Johnson, the acquisition of Andy Pettite, an almost guaranteed playoff spot and enough money to bring Cy Young back from the dead, the Yankees seem to be in the best position to make a deal. That is, if Roger likes striking out major leaguers more than coaching and playing golf.

Top free agents, but at what cost?

MLB is notorious for big money free agent signings. This off-season was no different, with a wealth of free agents getting signed for ridiculous amounts of money. But with eight other players on the field, spending over \$100 million on one player may not always be the wisest course of action.

The Houston Astros picked up left fielder Carlos Lee for \$100 million over six years. After losing the World Series in 2005 and not making the playoffs last season, the Astros could use all the help they can get this season. With a 2006 batting average of .322 and an OBP of .389, signing Lee could definitely pay off.

The Chicago Cubs have declined in the NL Central each season since 2003, when they won the division and came within five outs of the World Series. Simply put, signing centre fielder Alfonso Soriano to an eight-year \$136 million contract won't solve the problems the team faces. Soriano's 2006 numbers aren't even that great. The money they're throwing around would be better used to trim the ivy in Wrigley's outfield.

The San Francisco Giants signed left-hander Barry Zito for seven years at \$126 million. Zito, who's a strong believer in Zen, is going to have difficult finding time to meditate with all the problems in San Fran. Aside from Zito, the Giants have a pretty mediocre pitching roster.

Adding Zito to the mix is definitely a good move, but for the Giants to have success, the rest of the bullpen is going to have to step it up in '07.

The LA Dodgers had strong 2006 season but were swept by the New York Mets in the first round of the playoffs. With an already well-rounded team, the acquisition of pitcher Jason Schmidt for \$47 million over three years seems like one of the most logical pickups this year. Schmidt has solid career numbers and, if he can get his velocity up—it's been lacking in the pre-season—the Dodgers could be a strong contender this year.

Konichiwa, Matsuzaka-san

It's entirely possible that the city of Boston may explode before the end of the 2007 baseball season should Japanese-import Daisuke Matsuzaka fail to live up to the hype. Casuals and diehards alike will be watching impatiently to see whether "Dice-K"—who went 17–5 last year with the Seibu Lions, and cost Boston \$51 million just to attempt to negotiate a contract—can become the new ace in Beantown. That said, after already having one unsavoury performance early in the pre-season, fans are on the edge of their seats waiting for him to screw up again. In order to be the pitcher that the Sox want him to be, though, he will simply have to learn to play through the pressure of a fan base as hardcore as the Sox, and deal with the baseball-mad Japanese media.

Getting back on the horse

The 2007 season could prove to be the Year of the Comeback, with three major names returning to action. After being on the disabled list for the better part of the last two years, relief pitcher Eric Gagné—a Montréal and former Cy Young winner—was signed to a one-year deal by the Texas Rangers in December. Though he'll likely not be able to pitch at the success rate he had as a Dodger, Gagné still has the potential to be a one of the most successful closers this season.

The Rangers also signed retired slugger Sammy Sosa to a minor-league contract, in the hopes that he'd find a spot on the main roster—which he did after belting nine homers in spring training. A former 60-plus home run threat, Sosa was hit hard by the steroid crackdown, and is now attempting to remake his career, hopefully without the juice.

Oakland A's pitcher Rich Harden will also be back in the fold this season as the ace of their pitching rotation. Many agree that if the young British Columbian can stay healthy for most of the year, he has the potential to be a Cy Young Award winner. Blessed with a hard splitter, Harden has the ability to chew up batters and pitch efficiently, causing a lot of ground balls.



MIKE KENDRICK

THE GATEWAY

volume XCVII number 44 ♦ the official student newspaper at the university of alberta ♦ www.thegatewayonline.ca ♦ thursday, 29 march, 2007



PHIL HEAD

LECTURESHIP IN HUMAN RIGHTS Littlechild spoke at the Myer Horowitz Theatre Monday night.

Speaker says int'l community must protect indigenous rights

TOM WAGNER
News Staff

Led in by a traditional sweetgrass and drum ceremony, Wilton Littlechild, one of the world's foremost authorities on international indigenous peoples' issues with a seat on the United Nations' Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, came to speak at the ninth-annual Visiting Lectureship in Human Rights at the University of Alberta on Monday night.

Following previous years' speakers such as Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Romeo Dallaire, Littlechild, the Alberta graduate and the first Treaty Indian to hold a seat in Parliament spoke on international issues facing indigenous peoples worldwide.

In a speech highlighted with humorous stories from a lifetime of advocacy work, Littlechild outlined the international indigenous people's

movement from its roots in the mid-'20s up until the present day, as well as the successes it has achieved in that period of time.

Littlechild credited the international indigenous people's movement with wide-ranging developments, such as the UN's acceptance of collective rights and the recognition of the family, environmental law and the right of people to self-determination. He also highlighted the plight of indigenous women and children, something discussed by the Permanent Forum.

"Imagine a child being born and being expected to live 20 years less than others, experience Third World diseases, live in overcrowded houses, receive poor education, routinely be made to feel ashamed for who they are, and be harassed by police," Littlechild said. "This is an indigenous child."

PLEASE SEE **LITTLECHILD** ♦ PAGE 6

Mandatory retirement put to pasture at U of A

NATALIE CLIMENHAGA
Senior News Editor

At the University of Alberta, 65 is a number and not an expiration date, according to a Board of Governors vote on 23 March to discontinue mandatory retirement for academic staff.

Dr David Johnson, President of the Association of Academic Staff: University of Alberta, noted that the world has changed since the concept of mandatory retirement was first introduced and that the vote follows decisions already made by other North America universities.

"In the initial stages we had to do the research to find out that a lot of the myths about ending mandatory retirement are just that."

DR DAVID JOHNSON,
U OF A ASSOCIATION OF ACADEMIC STAFF

"Back in the '20s or '30s, people were old at 65. A lot has changed medically, so that there's no reason why people can't work [past] 65," Johnson said.

Associate Vice-President (Human Resources) Larry Beauchamp pointed to improving the recruitment and retention of top academics as the main rationales behind the move. He noted that U of A professors approaching the 65 marker, who may have research projects and/or graduate students under their charge, previously would've

been easily drawn away to competing universities that don't have mandatory retirement.

"[And] when we were trying to recruit senior people, of course if you're recruiting somebody in their late 50s or early 60s, and they saw that you had mandatory retirement in three years or so, [the U of A] wasn't a particularly attractive place to move to either," Beauchamp added.

Last year, the U of A created a task force, which studied the issue of ending mandatory retirement. The task force's findings supported the decision, Johnson said.

"In the initial stages we had to do the research to find out that a lot of the myths about ending mandatory retirement are just that," Johnson explained. "That the actual cost is quite low—especially given the ability to maintain some expertise. The myth that only the incompetent stay is completely false. When you look at the research it's the people who are really good who want to stay two or three more years."

Beauchamp said that retirement trends studied at American institutions, where mandatory retirement had been eliminated for some time, showed that even with the option to stay indefinitely few professors clung to their academic posts.

"Looking at the American [statistics], we found for instance, that the average age of retirement for professors is normally about 62.5. [Eliminating mandatory retirement] raised it to something like 63.7—so it just added another year," he said. "And [of] those that stayed on after the age of 65—96 per cent of those people retired before they were 68."

PLEASE SEE **RETIREMENT** ♦ PAGE 4

Helping depressed mothers

U of A researchers help new mothers suffering from postpartum depression recognize and respond to their babies various needs

BRYAN SAUNDERS
News Staff

Unlike other illnesses, postpartum depression affects not only the mother suffering from depression but also her ability to take care of, and therefore the health of, her baby.

With that in mind, a team of researchers at the University of Alberta, led by psychologist Dr Vivienne Jung, undertook a pilot study on postpartum depression and its effects on the baby.

The intervention, a program called Keys to Caregiving, teaches depressed mothers to understand and respond to cues given by the baby.

"Obviously the baby can't talk," Dr Robert Short, a member of the research team, said. "But they have facial expressions and body movements and hand movements and so on. The program essentially teaches the mother how to respond appropriately even though they're depressed."

He explained that while there are ways of treating postpartum depression in the mother, they're neither straightforward nor guaranteed to work.

"There is medication, sure, but there are

problems with medications, particularly if the mother is breastfeeding, because of the effects of the medication on the baby itself. There are other approaches that deal in a therapeutic way with the mother's depression, mainly talk-therapists and support groups with similar[ly] situated women," Short stated.

Few of these approaches, he continued, directly improve the situation of the baby. Therefore, the focus of the research was to turn away from treating the mother and to focus on how to improve the mother's interactions with the baby.

"If we can get the mother to, even though she is depressed, go through the repertoire of skills and interactions that are taught in this type of intervention then at least the baby's development is not being hampered and affected by her depression," Short explained.

He acknowledged that the health of a new mother is very important and that any depression on her part is very troubling. However, he added that it's also important that the development and health of the baby isn't neglected.

PLEASE SEE **DEPRESSION** ♦ PAGE 4

Inside

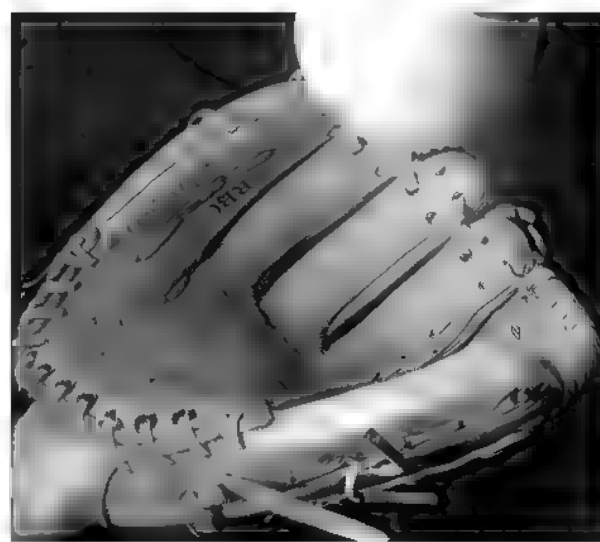
News	1-7
Opinion	8-12
Feature	14-15
Sports	16-20
A&E	21-24
Classifieds	25
Comics	27



We're here all week

So, what's the deal with stand-up comedy? Our resident laughotologists hit an open-mic night to find out.

FEATURE, PAGES 14-15



Spring is sprung

The grass has riz; wonder who'll win the NL East? We've got all that and more in our baseball season preview.

SPORTS, PAGE 18

These sports need to be off TV; they suck to watch



GATEWAY
SPORTS STAFF

Sports
Commentary

The CIS season is complete, and now Gateway sports writers must crawl out of the Van Vliet Centre and find some new athletic events to occupy their time. But before they do, they pointed out the sports they'd rather pluck their eyes out Oedipus-style than watch.

Ross Prusakowski

Paint drying, grass growing and people golfing. They aren't all sports, but they're among the things that are my least favourite to watch in the world. However, even of this trio, golf is by far the worst to watch.

There's just something absurd about watching others play the damn game while people talk about them in hushed voices. Aside from the rare unbelievable shot—which can be seen on *Sportscentre* later that night—not much happens in golf aside from lots of walking, staring and threatening of fans who have the audacity to take pictures during a backswing. What's worse is that thanks to the number of people playing in a typical tournament, it takes an eternity to reach the final few holes where the drama finally builds up. Meanwhile, there goes eight hours that could have been spent being productive.

So hands down, golf is my least favourite sport to watch. Maybe when

I become old and nursing-home bound the nuances of watching people walk and occasionally swing a club will hold attraction for me. Until then, what channel is that grass growing on?

Trevor Phillips

First, is poker a sport? Because if it is, then I pick poker. Hey, if I wanted to watch overweight individuals compete for gold bracelets, I'd go down to the local retirement home on bingo-bracelet night. Cards don't belong on TV.

In terms of actual sports, I guess I'd have to go with ice dancing as my least favourite. Now don't get me wrong, figure skating I can handle, but ballroom dancing on ice is just pointless. Figure skating is actually pretty cool; I can remember curling up to my 20-inch Zenith to catch Mr Brian Orser and Mr Kurt Browning duke it out for singles supremacy. Seeing Shae-Lynn Bourne and Victor Kratz bob, weave, and sashay around a perfectly good hockey rink, though, is about as fun as throwing rocks at airplanes. Maybe if the International Skating Union let the couples jump or throw one another, the sport would have some viewing potential, but as it stands now, ice dancing is like social dance on skates.

Andrew Renfree

It's tough to pick the worst sport to watch. Figure skating doesn't really float my boat, but it's not the worst. The skimpy clothes and half-decent music improve the sport to the point where it's tolerable. Golf is also pretty brutal to watch. The commentators give the Queen a run for her money for

most boring person in the world, and the cameras mostly just follow Tiger Woods all tournament. I might enjoy watching golf if they had a colourful commentator who occasionally said "fuck" on live TV, or if the coverage actually followed a Canadian like Mike Weir or Stephen Ames.

But golf and figure skating take a backseat to the absolute worst sport to watch, which has got to be fishing. I'm not even sure if fishing can be considered a sport, because you just have to be patient and have strong wrists to be good at it—every 14 year old boy has that—but ESPN has a link to bass fishing, and they use terms like Bassmaster Classic to describe their events; smells like a sport to me. Fishing is fine if you're the one in the boat with the beer having a good time with a buddy. But why in the hell would I want to watch some guy drink his own beer with some other guy I don't know? I don't.

Robin Collum

I wavered before choosing car racing as the most boring sport to watch because, like a lot of people, I hesitate to call it a one. Sure, it takes skill, and the drivers get all sweaty, but those criteria also apply to porn, and I don't see anyone expecting that on TSN. But if we pretend for a moment that an activity entirely reliant on an engine can be considered a sport, then it's clear that NASCAR and F1 are the most boring spectator sports in the world. Golf is slow, sure, but there are good shots and near-misses at the hole to keep you entertained. With fishing you at least get to see some fish, and ice dancing is just really awesome, so

Trevor should shut right up.

I am mystified by racing's appeal, however. You can't see the drivers' faces, so there's no emotional connection; they do hundreds of laps, so you could go for more fake cheese on your nachos and not miss anything. Even the pit stops are stupid. Just make the races shorter, for goodness' sake. The only variety, and therefore possibility for interest, comes when someone catches on fire, and that doesn't even happen every time. If I wanted to watch someone drive really fast, I'd get in my sister's car; at least that way I'd get to look out the window when it got tedious.

Nick Frost

For the past few years—with the re-emergence of the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) and the Spike TV reality hit, *The Ultimate Fighter*—mixed martial arts have been steadily gaining popularity with their crossover into the mainstream, yet, I still don't understand why. There isn't any sort of appeal involved in watching two guys swing at each other—and miss most of the time—for 30 seconds, and then drop to the floor and hold the same grapple on each other for the remainder of the match.

And it's not like I haven't tried to catch the UFC craze, either. I sat through an entire fight once thinking that maybe, just maybe, it would lead to something absolutely spellbinding and satisfy my bloodlust. Instead, I kid you not, the two men involved in the fight locked each other into a grapevine maneuver and stayed frozen in that position for four fucking minutes. Spooning is permitted elsewhere, guys, not on my TV screen. Not to mention, this scenario

repeated itself round after round until a panel of older, more out-of-shape men apparently decided that one guy did a better job of spooning than the other. What a joke.

Don't think for a minute, though, that I don't think that any of these guys could kick my ass, or that their different fighting techniques—in a perverse sort of way—can be considered as part of an art form, like Japanese martial arts. It's just that, like some forms of art, it's just not entertaining to watch at all.

Paul Owen

There are many forms I can accept bowling in: it's fun to go out with a big group, goof off and fire heavy balls at wooden pins. Regardless of whether it's five- or ten-pin, bowling is awesome. I even enjoy bowling on the Wii—it has all the fun of heading down to Gateway Lanes without the overpriced food and beverages and the screaming youngsters wetting themselves everywhere. But just because bowling is fun doesn't mean it should be on TSN.

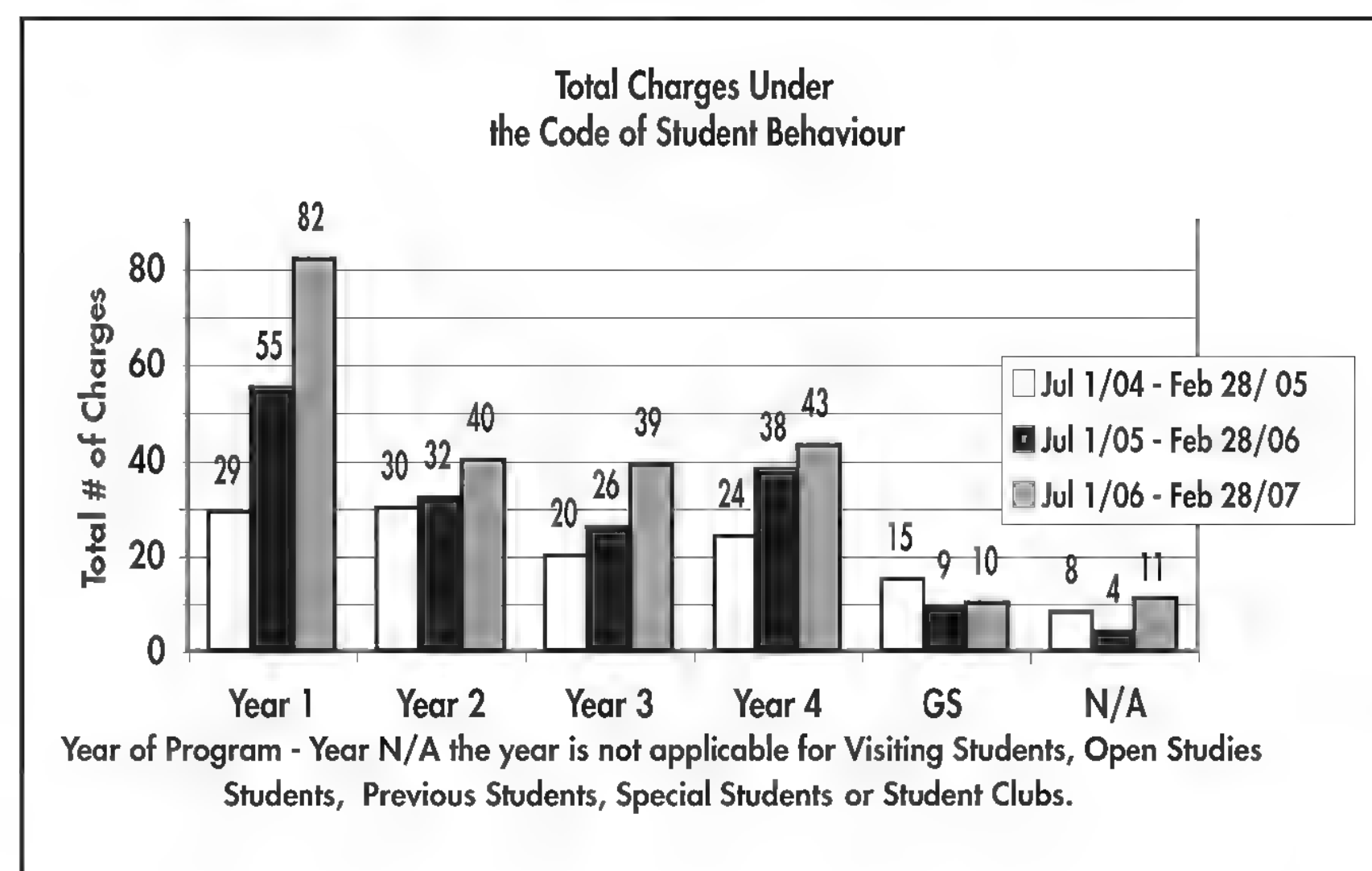
Look, bowling is one of those sports where you have to do it to enjoy it. Watching balding men with amusing facial hair make balls carve three feet in either direction is impressive, yet utterly boring. Besides, half the fun of bowling is heckling your partners or opponents when they miss a shot. If you do that while watching it, you're just the crazy guy who yells at his TV when no one else is around. It's like the aging jock equivalent of the cat lady. In short, televised bowling causes social people to become agoraphobic, and therefore must be stopped at all costs.

Code of Student Behaviour: READ IT BEFORE YOU NEED IT!



**Don't make bad decisions
because you're rushed for time.**

Don't make it happen to you!



To learn more about the Code of Student Behaviour go to
www.ualberta.ca/CodeofStudentBehaviour

Truth In Education: TIE Integrity into Learning
www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/TIE

For further information, assistance, or other student services go to
www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/OmbudService

Provided by the GFC Campus Law Review Committee (CLRC)

School of Business

MACEWAN

think Career

Turn your university credits into a career.

Whether you're wrapping up your first or your final year, MacEwan can turn those credits into a career in less than a year.

Effective communication is the backbone of any business in any industry. Public relations professionals are in high demand, and employers know the quality of a MacEwan PR grad.

This career diploma is a 10-month program that requires as few as 30 previous post-secondary credits – with at least one English course. The program includes two months on-the-job experience, you can complete it on a full or part-time basis.

For more information, visit www.MacEwan.ca/pr, or call 497-5389.



www.MacEwan.ca

SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

The Irish Descendants

Thursday, 29 March at 8pm
Edmonton Event Centre (formerly Red's)
Tickets \$15.90 plus tax at ticketmaster.ca

Ireland has many famous symbols associated with it, such as leprechauns, shamrocks and Pierce Brosnan, but it's the Irish passion for music that has always stood above everything else. Despite not having formed directly in Ireland, the Irish Descendants do presumably consist of descendants of Irish people and they've been belting out Irish folk melodies from their home base in Newfoundland for so many years—17 to be exact—that all the snakes on the East Coast of Canada have mysteriously vanished. Just don't get them confused with that other group, The Scottish Descendants. They hate that.

Kara Keith and the Cop Outs

With Hot Panda and Electricity for Everybody
Friday, 30 March at 8pm
Victory Lounge
\$10 at door

Even after several months together, Kara Keith, lead singer for Calgary rockers Falcon Hawk, has had no luck with her new band. For every gig that she's booked for them, one or all of her band mates have somehow found excuses not to play or just don't show up. Hopefully with this gig at the Victory Lounge on Friday, Kara will be able to rally her group together and finally close out a show.

Against Me!

With Riverboat Gamblers and Fake Problems
Friday, 30 March at 7pm
Dinwoodie Lounge
Tickets \$19 advance, \$20 at door

Folk-punk group Against Me! will travel all the way from Gainesville, Florida to hit Dinwoodie Friday night. Gainesville has a storied history of breeding killer punk groups, as evidenced by the success of hardcore forefathers Hot Water Music, as well as a few lesser known bands such as Assholeparade and the Grabass Charlestons. By avoiding the *derrière* tendencies of Gainesville band-naming, along with their obvious talents, Against Me! has quickly risen up the punk popularity ladder. Their highly anticipated major label debut, *New Wave* is due out this spring.

Jay Crocker and His Electric Apes

With Guests
Saturday, 31 March at 8pm
Starlite Room, 18+
\$10 at door

Jay Crocker's ambitious album *Melodies from the Outskirts* is self-described as "avante-garde indie pop Afro jazz," and features a sound full of "soul, angles, roots, grit, and heart." A significant number of adjectives for an eight-song record, indeed, but is it possible that Mr Crocker can satisfy his audience's desire for hardy, down-to-earth descriptors? Find out Saturday, when Crocker takes the stage with his ten-piece live band the Electric Apes, who have been described by various NRA spokesmen as damn dirty.

The Acorn

With Storyboard and Hills Like White Elephants
Saturday 31 March at 8 pm
Victory Lounge, 18+
\$10 at door

In a nutshell, Ottawa-based quartet The Acorn claim to be influenced by such various eccentricities as the scabies vaccine, that old lady who said, "Where's the beef?" and 16th century Japanese haiku poet Basho. Wha! Haikus! That settles it, The Acorn deserve a haiku dedicated to them, and here it is!

The Acorn's folk rock
Hits Victory Saturday
Basho would be proud

JOHN KMECH
A&E Poet



In it for the long program

*Saturday Night Live's Amy Poehler chats about her role as a figure skating diva in **Blades of Glory***

Movie Preview: *Blades of Glory*

Starring Will Ferrell, Jon Heder, Will Arnett and Amy Poehler
Directed by Josh Gordon and Will Speck
Opens Friday, 30 March
Empire Theatres

MARIA KOTOVYCH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

After spending a number of years on *Saturday Night Live* and dabbling in comedic films such as *Mean Girls* and *Tenacious D*, there's really no stopping Amy Poehler from making bizarre conjectures about ice sports. Her upcoming move, *Blades of Glory*, might feature the eccentric, blond-haired vixen performing elegant axel jumps, but if Poehler had a choice, she'd prefer the sport that involves screaming, "Harder!"

"From what I can see, I think you can smoke while you [curl] and I enjoy any sport where you can sit and yell at the people that are performing and also smoke," she says with a laugh. "And my husband [*Blades of Glory* co-star Will Arnett] and I really got into curling and watching it over the Olympics. I don't know how to do it, but it looks like a lot of fun and it's a crazy-looking sport."

Blades of Glory, unfortunately, isn't about curling, but rather figure skating. Chazz Michael Michaels (Will Ferrell) and Jimmy MacElroy (Jon Heder) are two champion figure skaters whose behaviour at a competition gets them banned for life, but thanks to a loophole in the rules, they discover that they can still continue as a pairs team. And they do. This infuriates Fairchild (Amy Poehler) and Stranz Van Waldenberg (Will Arnett), the brother/sister current reigning champs who spend the movie trying to bring down the new pairs team.

"My character, Fairchild, is like that evil girl who would sit on the top of a cake. She looks

sweet, but inside, she's very sour," says Poehler. "What I [thought] about was prima ballerinas and ice queens, really rich mothers and also super villains where you think ... they look very together, and inside, they're kind of like maniacal crazy people."

Thinking it would be fun to play a villain is really the only reason Poehler took on her character; however, this rational approach to picking a role was very different than the more unconventional way in which she normally narrows down her job offers.

"I like to think that I'm going to try to represent those people who spent their whole lives working at their craft by pretending to do it for two hours in a movie."

AMY POEHLER

"As far as picking roles, I don't know if this is wise, but I just take scripts and I just throw them up in the air and whatever one lands [in the place I want] is where I go," Poehler describes, her comedy roots in full force. "So right now, I'm in real trouble because I have to play a 45-year-old Black janitor and I don't think I can pull it off, but that's what landed so that's where I'm going to go next."

Poehler doesn't do any sweeping in *Blades of Glory*, neither as a curler nor as a janitor. But in order to play Fairchild, she did have to learn to skate. While she admits that her husband and Ferrell had to prop her up on the ice at times, she currently can skate backwards and do different tricks and jumps. It was nice working with her husband as her on-screen skating

partner, Poehler explains, because she was able to rehearse her moves with someone she trusts.

"We did a lot of practicing while we watched our dogs and while we were watching *Lost*. Yes, we did a lot of at-home practicing of our moves," Poehler says.

Blades of Glory features the new skating abilities of Poehler, and also showcases a number of Olympic athletes like Nancy Kerrigan and Peter and Kitty Carruthers, the brother/sister 1984 Olympic silver medallist pairs team who hail from Poehler's hometown of Burlington, Massachusetts.

"I like to think that I'm going to try to represent those people who spent their whole lives working at their craft by pretending to do it for two hours in a movie," Poehler says with a laugh.

Along with learning to skate like the Olympic athletes, Poehler and her co-stars also had the honour of dressing in the outrageously flamboyant costumes ubiquitous in the figure skating world. Poehler explains that their outfits started off looking pretty wild; however, after re-watching the Olympics, she and her co-stars would realize that the clothes needed to be even crazier. For example, one item that Poehler wears in the film lights up like a Christmas tree, while another creation makes her and Arnett look like thugs—outdated thugs, at that. Ferrell and Heder don't miss out on the costume fun either, Poehler notes.

"[They] sport some really special looks that I think [are] going to start sweeping the campuses and be the next trend," she says with mock seriousness. "It's very, very tight lycra outfits and lots of jewels and feathers and stuff. We'll see if that catches on."

Along with predicting fashion trends, Poehler also envisions her plans for the near future.

"I'm going to go on a curling tour, and I'm going to do a fierce curling regimen of drinking beers, packing butts and yelling at my fellow players," Poehler laughs.



LIZ DURDEN

A FRUITY FAMILY Studio Theatre is remaking Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard*.

A cherry-picked production

The Cherry Orchard

Directed by Richard Greenblatt
Starring Meredith Bailey, Kate Bateman, Tracy Leigh Campbell, Darren Dolynski, Katherine Gorham and Alana Hawley
Runs 29 March to / April
Studio Theatre

PAUL BLINOV
Arts & Entertainment Staff

The Cherry Orchard is a play about saying goodbye to the past and trying to embrace an unknown future. Fitting, then, that it's also one of the final performances of this year's graduating BFA class, who will soon be doing just that.

Famously written as a farce but subsequently directed as a tragedy, *The Cherry Orchard* depicts a Russian family's return to their old estate in an attempt to prevent it from being sold. However, they end up wasting their precious time on trivial matters and take little action to save their plot of land. It took Darren Dolynski, who plays free slave Yermolai Lopakhin, a few reads before he found a deeper connection with the unusual script.

"Originally when I read the play, I thought, 'What the hell is this?'"

Dolynski admits. "I didn't find it funny. I didn't even find it interesting, really. But upon further reading and delving into [the script] more, the play became immensely interesting, and hilarious. You have a bunch of characters who seem like they aren't doing anything, but inside, it's like all these kettles on stage, ready to boil over."

The Cherry Orchard was penned by Anton Chekhov in turn-of-the-century Russia, a socially unstable time when the country was a messy blend of crumbling aristocracies, an emerging middle class and many growing revolutionary ideologies. This uncertainty is reflected in the script, and according to Ben McIvor, who fills out the role of servant Yasha, because of this shaky political landscape, the characters are caught between the past they understand and the future they don't want to embrace.

"[In the play], the world is changing and there are people who change with it, and also those who hold on to the past and who do nothing to protect their futures," McIvor notes. "The play really looks at a lot of that aspect. The family comes home to say goodbye to their old life, to the fall of their society, but they refuse to fully

accept it and move on to the future."

This may seem like serious subject matter for a play that was originally written to be humorous, but McIvor clarifies that this was never meant to be a traditional comedy. *The Cherry Orchard* relies on the gravity of situations, not gags, to provoke laughter.

"The play's not 'one, two, three, punch line.' It's a situational comedy, and the relationships are what's really funny," McIvor states. "The characters, and what they're trying to do to move forward yet still hold onto the past is so ridiculous and so mundane that you either laugh in pure utter disbelief of what they're doing, or you laugh because it's better than crying."

The combination of laughter and tears *The Cherry Orchard* is meant to draw from audiences is likely tugging on each actor as well; they're all on the verge of graduating, leaving the safety of university behind and trying to embrace their own unknown futures. But as Dolynski observes, life always has a bittersweet tinge to it, and like in the play, it cannot be ignored.

"Laughter and tears are so close to each other," Dolynski explains. "Life is like that: it's really funny at times, but also really sad."

Through the Eye of the Storm



The 2007 Gateway Photo Show opens Saturday, 31 March at 7pm, in Remedy Café 8631 - 109 Street.

gatewayphotoshow@gmail.com

GATEWAY
PHOTOSHOW

Working this summer? Let employment standards work for you.

- ✓ Overtime is paid if your shift is longer than 8 hours
- ✓ A workday cannot be more than 12 hours, including breaks
- ✓ A break is required if your shift is longer than 5 hours
- ✓ The minimum wage is \$7.00 per hour
- ✓ Workers are guaranteed 3 hours of minimum wage for short shifts

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS, go to
www.employment.gov.ab.ca/employmentstandards
or call toll-free 310-0000 and ask for employment standards (to call direct dial (780) 427-3731).

Alberta

Trading amateur filmmaking for the reel thing

The Alberta Student Film Festival hopes to showcase some of the provinces fine young filmmakers and their outstanding works

Alberta Student Film Festival
Thursday, 29 March and Friday, 30 March at 8pm
Myer Horowitz Theatre

RAMIN OSTAD
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Film festivals aren't exactly new to our city. The Edmonton International Film Festival, The 48-hour Film Project and Red Deer College's former Notion of Motion festival, among others, have provided the city with plenty of memorable films. But according to John Negropontes and Tyler MacIntyre, the coordinators for the first Edmonton Student Film Festival, there's still one group of filmmakers that haven't quite had their time in the spotlight.

"There's never really been many film festivals geared towards just students or people under the age of 25 who are not quite at the professional level yet but who are working towards it," MacIntyre explains. "There's kind of an odd lack of market for people who are under 25, because you're not quite professional enough to be in something like the Toronto Film Festival, but a bit too old for the high school film festivals, so we're hoping to give those people an outlet."

In order to provide that outlet, the festival focused on accessibility, keeping the application fees low and making the criteria for submissions flexible without restrictions on length or genre. MacIntyre hopes this approach will allow applicants to use films they've already made, and avoid the observer



PETE YEE

BEHIND THE CAMERA Organizers for the Alberta Student Film Festival are giving students the chance to compete for prizes in four different award categories.

expectation effect when making films specifically for the festival.

The films will be judged in four different categories, including Best Cinematography, Best Actor, Best Actress and Best Film, and each come with a \$500 prize. In order to judge the films, the coordinators created a screening panel comprised of people in touch with various elements of film making, including two film studies professors from the U of A, a creative writing professor who teaches screenwriting, a radio-television teacher from NAIT and a member the Film and Video Arts society of Alberta.

"I want them to see that this art is becoming more and more accessible," MacIntyre says. "Often people get daunted by the idea of going out and shooting a movie, where the reality is that it's not that hard. There are resources available to you, especially in this town and the network of people around that can help you make that happen."

The festival will be screening on both Thursday, 29 March and Friday, 30 March at the Myer Horowitz Theatre, with the cost of admission being a donation. MacIntyre hopes that the festival will help give the festival's audience a better awareness of the quality of films being made right here in Edmonton.

"When you see Edmonton International Film Festival, the international part becomes the operative part of that, because they show a lot of films from the States, and not all of them necessarily have anything to do with Canada or Edmonton. The purpose of our festival is to keep it very local."

2007/2008 COUNCILLOR ELECTION RESULTS

GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL

ARTS Alan Cliff Naveed Bandali Jo Chan Beverly Eastham Cody Lawrence Rachelle Simard Jesse Hahn	ENGINEERING Graeme Wicentowich Prem Eruvbetine Scott Rebman Mathieu Johnson <i>Councillor in waiting (1)</i> Brady Bouchard <i>Councillor in waiting (1)</i> Stephen McFetridge	NATIVE STUDIES Stacey Lambert
CAMPUS ST. JEAN Libby Padilla	LAW Ian Stedman <i>Councillor in waiting (1)</i> Robbie Armfield <i>Councillor in waiting (2)</i> Kathryn Baars <i>Councillor in waiting (3)</i> Melissa Bryden	NURSING Chris Mah
BUSINESS Dawn Tran Scott Nicol		PHARMACY Naeem Ladhani
EDUCATION Fatima Ahmed Hayley Shannon		SCIENCE Mike Gaultois Lindsey Campbell Terence Fung Sihame Farhat Alin Florea Adil Afzal Tanner Doerges

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

AG/FOR/HE Jacqueline Geller	CAMPUS ST. JEAN Aden Murphey	NATIVE STUDIES Stacey Lambert
ARTS Dave Cournoyer Al-Amyr Sumar Naveed Bandali Leslie Stitt Jo Chan Jesse Hahn Beverly Eastham	EDUCATION Hayley Shannon Fatima Ahmed Keith Vandersluis	PHARMACY Jay Gauthier
AUGUSTANA Makrina Scott	ENGINEERING Prem Eruvbetine Scott McKinney Nigel Parker	SCIENCE Lindsey Campbell Terence Fung Douglas Owoo Sihame Farhat Adil Afzal Aiden Wawchuk Tanner Doerges Kyle Friedt
BUSINESS Andrew Esposito Ryan Payne Scott Nicol	LAW Ian Stedman <i>Councillor in waiting (1)</i> Robbie Armfield <i>Councillor in waiting (2)</i> Kathryn Baars <i>Councillor in waiting (3)</i> Melissa Bryden	

➤➤ LEARN MORE AT:
WWW.SU.UALBERTA.CA/VOTE



Volunteer Abroad

PERU
COSTA RICA
NICARAGUA
ECUADOR
NEPAL
GHANA

Available on campus at:
TRAVEL CUTS
VOYAGES CAMPUS

SOCIAL PROGRAMS
HEALTH+MEDICINE
CUSTOM GROUPS
CONSERVATION
TEACHING
BUILDING

I have been truly changed by this experience and can't wait to go back.
Emily Wilson
Ghana Social Program

(800) 263-0050
volunteerabroad.ca

college pro PAINTERS SUMMER JOBS

COLLEGE PRO PAINTERS is presently looking for responsible / hard-working University or College students for:

Full-Time Painting Positions
May - August

No experience required,
we will train you to paint.

Positions available in your area.
If interested call 1-888-277-9787
or apply online at www.collegepro.com

The Gateway is looking for a Sports Editor

• The **Sports Editor's*** term runs from 1 May 2006 to 30 April 2007. The full-time paid portion of the job runs from mid-August to the end of April. Additionally, six issues of the *Gateway* will be produced over the summer months. The Sports Editor is expected to train on at least three of the six summer issues (unless granted leave by the hiring committee) for an honorarium of \$100/issue. In the full-time months, the position's salary is \$1281.88 per month.

The Gateway is also looking for a few part-time employees

- The **Online Coordinator*** will be responsible for keeping the *Gateway's* new website slick, sexy and not libellous. Hours are flexible, but free Monday and Wednesday nights are a must. Remittance is \$419.60 per month.
- Two **Circulation PALs*** will deliver the *Gateway* to campus and beyond. Free Tuesday and Thursday mornings and afternoons are a must as is a driver's licence and clean driver's abstract. Remittance is \$329.96 per month.

Sound fun? Want to join the deathship?

Then please submit a resumé and cover letter, to Business Manager Steve Smith or Editor-in-Chief Matt Frehner by **NOON Thursday, 5 April**.

Applications can be submitted by e-mail (biz@gateway.ualberta.ca or eic@gateway.ualberta.ca) or in hardcopy (Room 3-04 Students' Union Building).

* For information and rundown of the complete job descriptions (subject to change) e-mail eic@gateway.ualberta.ca

Additionally ...

The *Gateway* is holding a special general meeting to choose its two (2) 2007/08 volunteer-staff board of directors representatives

- The SGM will take place on Thursday, 12 April at 4pm. All volunteer staff are asked to attend if possible.
- If you're interested in running, you must have had five (5) contributions to the *Gateway* in the last year and have opted-in as a staff member to Editor-in-Chief Matt Frehner. You can opt-in at any point before the meeting.

THE GATEWAY



They don't wanna grow up

The Uncas

With Cordoba and Jump + Dash
Friday, 30 March at 8pm
The Powerplant

KATHLEEN BELL
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The Uncas have been around a while. Let's just say long enough that the boys aren't exactly sure how many years they've been together—maybe five or six. In that time, the Edmonton-based band has become familiar with break-up rumours (they haven't), rumours that they have new members (they don't—at least not since two years ago) and, like all Canadian bands do at some point in their careers, has come to a realization.

"Crossing the Rockies in January is stupid," says Sook Uncas, who lends The Uncas his talents on bass, guitar, harmonica and vocals.

"We've been in crazy times in the mountains where you don't want to

stop because you can't see anything behind you, can't see anything in front of you, it's all white and we feel like we're bobsledding down the highway road," says Futch Uncas, whose musical contributions to the band include guitar, bass and vocals. "We'll be on the wrong rumble strip, like on the other side of the road, and we'll be like, 'Why is the rumble strip on this wheel?' We thought we were going to die lots of times."

In an effort to prevent further peril and almost certain death, The Uncas are heading south to California next year. They aren't abandoning their Alberta roots, but they are hoping to tap into the bigger market the United States provides. However, before beaches and bikinis comes the completion of their third album, a project they've just begun.

The new songs will be a continuation of their distinctive "whiskey cow punk" style—a definition based on an amalgamation of various journalists'

attempts to define The Uncas' sound.

"We just let people define it for us, because we don't really think about what we're doing when we write it; it's just what we naturally do," explains Futch. "We've always admired bands that sort of have their own unique sound and that's why we sort of tend to have our own way of doing things."

Their way of doing things includes a playful approach to music that might seem a touch youthful for such an experienced band, but they don't plan on growing up anytime soon. What has changed, however, is how they approach the creative process.

"Now we're writing our new material more together as a unit, and it might not be the whole band on every song, but it will be like, two or three of us on each one," explains Futch.

"When it gets to be that we're too old to jump off our amps and stuff, though, we might as well just throw in the towel," Sook adds.



Shaye

Lake of Fire
EMI
www.shayemusic.com

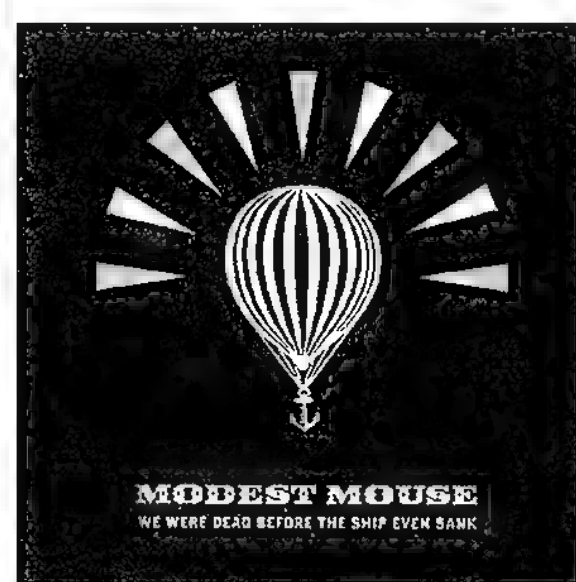
KELSEY TANASIUK
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Shaye's new album, *Lake of Fire*, offers no surprises for people who have heard their past work. The record features much of the same pleasantly folksy pop music that's characteristic of the trio, but while the album is admittedly well composed and sprinkled with lovely vocals, the lyrics do lack some of the playfulness of their other work. As a result, Shaye are left with a basic, run-of-the-mill folk-pop sound that's as interesting as a prairie field. *Lake of Fire* is a solid listen, but there's nothing exciting about it—it's President's Choice brand music.

Canada's least photogenic female trio deal up the same horrible booklet art as their last CD, but this time,

they've even added an awkward cardboard casing; you might manage to take the CD out neatly three or four times before you end up ripping the case apart. Whether or not this ripping is intentional is entirely dependent on your personal temperament.

There's nothing groundbreaking about *Lake of Fire*, but it meets the status quo set by their previous endeavours. Overall, the sound of this album can best be described in the phrase, "Girly movie road-trip montage." Picture a beat-up vintage convertible, generic looking girls with long blond hair, a lot of wind and some pretty coastline shots and you've got it.



Modest Mouse

We Were Dead Before the Ship Even Sank
Epic
www.modestmouse.com

MATT HUBERT
Arts & Entertainment Writer

It's been nearly three years since Modest Mouse released *Good News For People Who Love Bad News*, but

judging from their latest album, it's quite apparent that they're not worried about producing a mediocre follow-up.

With six albums and numerous EP's prior to *Good News*, Isaac Brock and long-time members Eric Judy and Jeremiah Green could rest easy over the winsome little pop one-off "Float On" falling into heavy rotation everywhere; obscure little gems like "Bukowski" still satisfied the dyed-in-the-wool faithful that earlier albums *The Lonesome Crowded West* or *Interstate 8* had dutifully earned. And the latest addition, *We Were Dead Before the Ship Even Sank*, proves that those three years were certainly not spent in vain.

The sprawling, open-sea themed album runs amok between the bawdy and the brilliant, yet still manages to weave Brock's meditations on

dissatisfaction and escapism into stylish melodies the whole way through. Warbling horns, organ and all manner of punchy percussion form the sort of off-kilter rattle that make tracks like "March Into The Sea" and "Dashboard" memorable. Similarly, the radio-bound "We've Got Everything" and "Steam Engine" are stripped down to very basic and very catchy guitar driven anthems, wherein ex-Smiths guitarist and new recruit Johnny Marr excels.

The album's true standout, however, is the eight-and-a-half minute "Spitting Venom," building acoustic guitars into a steady grind of epic horn-driven panache. Despite their lengthy absence, Modest Mouse have put a lot of care into doing exactly what they do best, and it's certain that the much-maligned concept album is a storm they can obviously sail.

CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad, please go to www.campusclassifieds.ca

FOR RENT

Looking for a place to live? Check out the SU's Housing Registry! Hundreds of suites and rooms for rent. www.rentingspaces.ca

FOR SALE

Cheap and reliable car! 1988 Honda Accord hatchback, manual, 168,000km, great mechanical shape, new battery-\$1200 obo. Call 469-8998 evenings.
1995 Ford Explorer. Well maintained, excellent mechanical condition, good value. \$3800. 437-6433

WANTED

Want to earn extra money? Young men needed for fertility study. Donate sperm samples and earn \$25 per sample. For details contact Alex at 265-4707 or Kate at 619-7710

SERVICES

Sick of Slo-pitch! The Edmonton Co-ed Softball Assoc. is looking for players/teams. Include two tiers, fast-pitch and orthodox, personal stats and player of the week packages. For more info contact Cay 235-2529 or www.ecsa.eague.ca

Get Lean, Learn and Earn. Ask me now? Loose Weight, Gain Energy, Increase concentration & Memory, Boost Immune, contact manjeetnanda@yanoo.ca /80 406 4056

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Free Seminar presented by Big Brothers Big Sisters Club. Topic: Enhancing literacy in children. Don't miss your chance to hear Julia Ellis, Faculty of Education, and Kim Coster, Big Brothers Big Sisters. Everyone welcome. 5pm Tues 3 Apr. Room 269 CAB. Call Monica at 424-8181 x249 for info.

EMPLOYMENT - FULL TIME

Painters needed! Need some decent cash? Looking for a full time summer job? Do you have painting experience? If so apply with us! University First Class Painters! Experience Preferred, but none needed! Call or e-mail me about any inquiries, e-mail: Dwnite@ufcp.ca

Heritage Harley Davidson/Buell's looking for FT rep (April-August) in the Motorcycles department selling the world's most recognized brand. You may also stay on part-time come September. We offer great pay, and benefits! If you are organized and artistic fax resume to 431-2166 (Attn Elizabeth) or drop by in-person to 9/43 51 Ave.

Legal Secretary - Busy law office looking for full time summer student for legal secretary position. Option to work part time during next school year. Ideal candidate will be in pre-law program looking for law firm experience. E-mail resume to j.kowalchuk@penmuraw.com.

Summer Work in St. Albert. Looking for hard-working students. Work outside, with friends, and make a good wage. Contact Drew 919-9345 kngkungpo.w@notmail.com

EMPLOYMENT - PART TIME

Golden West Golf Course is now accepting applications for a Pro Shop, Restaurant and Grounds positions. Golf privileges with employment. Apply at 16410 137 Ave or jobs@goldenwestgolf.com

Stratford YMCA Out-of-School Care program (8/15-153 Street) requires part-time Child Care Programmers for 7-9am / 3-6pm shifts, M-F. Minimum 6 hours per week. Free YMCA membership. Gain great experience working with children ages 5-12. Full-time hours available in the summer, \$10-12 per hour. E-mail cafe@edmontonymca.ca or call 429-5705

I am looking for a partner who will increase the business for my online store deservedly, com. No investment required. Earn 50 percent on profits. robinregan@notmail.com or call 429-4056

"You are so inspiring!" Do people often look to you for motivation and inspiration? If so, P.H.A.T. Training wants to talk to you too. We are looking for certified personal trainers who are natural leaders and motivators to be a part of our energetic team. Free Spirits, Open Minds, Compassionate Hearts NEED apply. E-mail your resume to Stacey at getpnat.no.w@gmail.com. www.getpnat.no.w.com

EMPLOYMENT - TEMPORARY

Excellent summer employment with Landscaping Co. Booccat Operators/Labourers for 07 season. Experience an asset but not training. Start \$13-22/hour. 780-903-6066

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Cultural Connections Institute The Learning Exchange is looking for volunteers to teach English as a Second Language (ESL) to adult newcomers to Canada. Orientation and training is provided. Morning, afternoon, and evening shifts available. Call 944-0792.

PERSONALS

It's Party Time! The Edmonton Party Line is a safe and easy way to meet new and interesting people. Ladies are free! Guys from 5 cents per minute. Ads, jokes, stories and more! Try it now! Dial 44-Party

Tired of chatting online? Try speed dating with E-gnt Minute Date on 4 April at Dante's Bistro. Age groups 18-27, 28-42, and 43-54. Register at 457-8535 or www.e-gntminutedate.ca

The OntarioWord #4

compiled by By Krystian Imgrum of The Ontario (CUP, University of Guelph)
The Crossword runs semi-regularly with the answer available in the next issue

Across

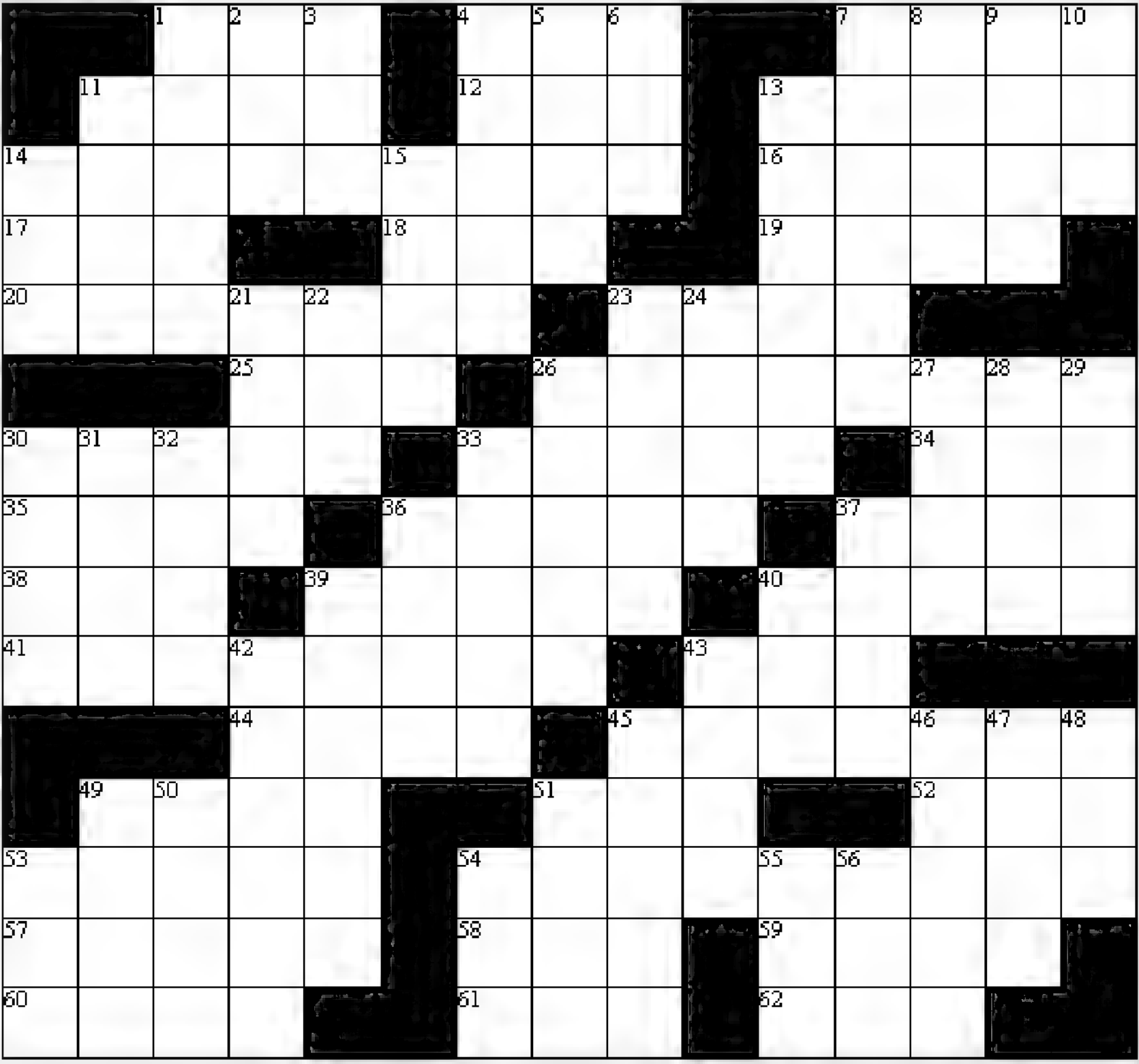
- 1. Mideastern garb
- 4. How many it takes
- 7. Lateral
- 11. Courts
- 12. Get a blue ribbon
- 13. Implied
- 14. NASA's realm
- 16. Potpourri feature
- 17. Fink
- 18. Squid's spray
- 19. Solitary
- 20. Desire
- 23. 49 across and home
- 25. Annoy
- 26. John Steed & Emma Peel
- 30. Censure
- 33. Exhausted
- 34. Humourist and gift
- 35. Actor Calhoun
- 36. Unfeeling
- 37. Apportion
- 38. Prominent period
- 39. Display
- 40. Concubine collection
- 41. Social newcomer
- 43. Hawaiian delicacy
- 44. And then there were _____
- 45. Add to
- 49. Economist Smith
- 51. Prone
- 52. Scandinavian: abbr.
- 53. Noisy sip
- 54. Low social class
- 57. Steers

- 58. Rocky peak
- 59. Appear
- 60. Sushi fish
- 61. Myrmecologist's subject
- 62. Each

Down

- 1. Major artery
- 2. Dissenting cry
- 3. Mary's steed
- 4. Nasal inflection
- 5. Votive feature
- 6. 4 across predecessor
- 7. Tropical skirt
- 8. Admired one
- 9. Price for a dozen?
- 10. Zeta successor
- 11. Erode
- 13. Knack
- 14. Crescent
- 15. Tickle colour?
- 21. World War I city
- 22. Fury
- 23. Happening
- 24. Gainsay
- 26. Left, a sea
- 27. Large pitcher
- 28. Religious passage
- 29. Originate
- 30. Procreated
- 31. Anecdotal knowledge
- 32. Doha native
- 33. Actress Sharon
- 36. Bridge

CROSSWORD



- 37. Mutilate
- 39. Throws a tantrum
- 40. Bulky bike
- 42. Divests weapons
- 43. Sets
- 45. Separate
- 46. Ingress
- 47. Standard

- 48. You must do it again
- 49. Sheltered
- 50. Blunt
- 51. _____
- 53. That girl
- 54. School org.
- 55. Horned viper
- 56. Formerly named

MARKET RESEARCH INTERVIEWER



- Conduct interviews over the telephone from our centrally located call centre, accurately enter data into a computer system.
- Absolutely no sales involved.
- Position requires excellent telephone manner and typing skills.
- Flexible scheduling with shift choices.
- Company benefits plan.
- \$10.50 / hour to start, with performance based reviews.

Please mail, fax or email your resume to:

2nd Floor, 10304 - 108 Street, Edmonton, AB T5J 1L9

Fax: 780-485-5085

Email: HR@TrendResearch.ca

Phone: 780-485-6558

TREND HIRES ON AN ONGOING BASIS

LSAT MCAT
GMAT GRE
Preparation Seminars

- Complete 30-Hour Seminars
- Proven Test-Taking Strategies
- Personalized Professional Instruction
- Comprehensive Study Materials
- Simulated Practice Exams
- Free Repeat Policy
- Personal Tutoring Available
- Thousands of Satisfied Students

Oxford Seminars
780-428-8700 / 1-800-779-1779
www.oxfordseminars.com

Teach English
Overseas



- Intensive 60-Hour Program
- Classroom Management Techniques
- Detailed Lesson Planning
- Comprehensive Teaching Materials
- Internationally Recognized Certificate
- Teacher Placement Service
- Money Back Guarantee Included
- Thousands of Satisfied Students

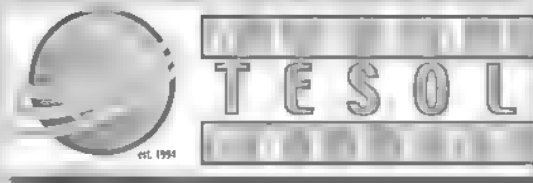
OXFORD
SEMINARS
780-428-8700 / 1-800-779-1779
www.oxfordseminars.com

Experience of a Lifetime

* Overseas Job Guaranteed

Free Info Seminar
Tues. @ 7pm
7712-104 Street

*Edmonton-based



(780) 438 5704
globaltesol.com

EASTER AND HOLY WEEK
SERVICES ON CAMPUS

Easter Morning (April 8th)
8am and 10am Holy Eucharist

Maundy Thursday (April 5th)
7pm Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday (April 6th)
10am Stations of the Cross
7pm Holy Eucharist

Holy Saturday (April 7th)
8pm Easter Vigil with Incense

St. George's Anglican Church
11733-87 Avenue (Right next door to Lister Hall)



The Gateway 2007 Reader Survey:

Now with a veritable plethora of radtacular prizes!



Tell us about you

Where do you live?
☐ At home (with parents) ☐ On campus
☐ Off campus

How old are you? _____

Are you:
☐ Male ☐ Female

E-mail: _____

This survey is completely anonymous, but prizes will be awarded to randomly drawn surveys, including a \$100 Bookstore certificate, magazine subscriptions to *The Walrus*, *Harper's* and *Maclean's*, Gateway T-shirts, mugs and bound editions and tons of CDs, movie passes and books!

THE GATEWAY

Swooning over mind-numbing demographic statistics since 1910



THE GATEWAY

OWNERS: U of A Student Society • THE OFFICE: Student Society, 100 St. George Street, 4th Floor, Toronto, ON M5S 1A5 • TEL: (416) 978-2111

JANZ THE MAN



It's your turn to let us know what you've thought about our fine publication this year. Was it a festival of radness? Or an exercise in futility?

Complete this survey and hand it in at the Gateway office in 3-04 SUB, or at InfoLink Information Booths in SUB, CAB, HUB, or ETLC by 3pm on 5 April, 2007.

How often do you read the Gateway?
☐ Never ☐ Less than once a month ☐ Monthly
☐ Weekly ☐ Twice weekly

How often do you read the Gateway online?
☐ Never ☐ Less than once a month ☐ Monthly
☐ Weekly ☐ Twice weekly

With 1 being the most important to you, rank the sections of the Gateway from 1 to 6:

____ News	____ Opinion
____ Sports	____ Arts & Entertainment
____ Comics	____ Features

On average, how long do you spend reading each section of the Gateway (in minutes)?

____ News	____ Opinion
____ Sports	____ Arts & Entertainment
____ Comics	____ Features

Rate the following from 1 to 5, where 1=awful and 5=totally rad:

How convenient do you find the Gateway's distribution points?	1 2 3 4 5
How would you rate the Gateway's new website?	1 2 3 4 5
How would you rate this year's news section?	1 2 3 4 5
How informative do you find the news section?	1 2 3 4 5
How would you rate this year's opinion section?	1 2 3 4 5
How do you like the editorial cartoons?	1 2 3 4 5
How funny do you find the opinion section?	1 2 3 4 5
How informative do you find the opinion section?	1 2 3 4 5
How would you rate this year's arts & entertainment section?	1 2 3 4 5
How would you rate this year's sports section?	1 2 3 4 5
How would you rate this year's features?	1 2 3 4 5
How would you rate this year's comics?	1 2 3 4 5
How would you rate the Gateway's photography?	1 2 3 4 5
How would you rate the Gateway's design and overall sexiness?	1 2 3 4 5
How would you rate the Gateway's coverage and representation of:	
Women and women's issues	1 2 3 4 5
Visible minorities and minorities' issues	1 2 3 4 5
Undergraduate students and lifestyle	1 2 3 4 5
Graduate students and lifestyle	1 2 3 4 5
Overall, how would you rate Gateway this year?	1 2 3 4 5

What section do you read the most?
☐ Arts & Entertainment ☐ Sports ☐ Opinion ☐ News
☐ Comics ☐ Features

What type of Gateway News articles do you read most?
☐ Campus news ☐ Local news ☐ People profiles
☐ Streeters ☐ Science and technology
☐ National news

What type of Opinion articles do you read most?
☐ Political commentary ☐ Humour ☐ Student life
☐ Self-deprication

What type of A&E articles do you read most?
☐ Movies ☐ Theatre ☐ CD/Game reviews ☐ Music
☐ Visual arts

How would you rate the Gateway's print ad content?
☐ Too much ☐ Too little ☐ Just right

Are you aware that University of Alberta students pay a \$2.73 per term student fee to fund the Gateway as an autonomous, not-for-profit journalism society?
☐ Yes ☐ No

Short-Answer Questions

What about the paper makes you want to pick it up?

What would you like to see more of in the Gateway?

What should each section of the paper (news, A&E, sports, opinion, comics, features) do that it currently doesn't?

What should the new website do that it doesn't?

Do you like the comments feature on the website? Why or why not?

What was the most memorable article you read in the Gateway this year? Most memorable photo? Any particular reason why?

What was the worst article you read in the Gateway this year? Worst photo? Any particular reason why?

Have you ever thought about volunteering for the Gateway? Why or why not?

Who are your favourite Gateway writers/photographers/comic artists? Why?

In one word, how would you describe the Gateway?

Do you prefer to read the Gateway in print or online?

What pickup location do you normally get the Gateway from?

What, if any, pickup locations would you like to see added?

If you're a returning student, do you think the Gateway has gotten better or worse since you first came to the U of A / first started reading it? Why?

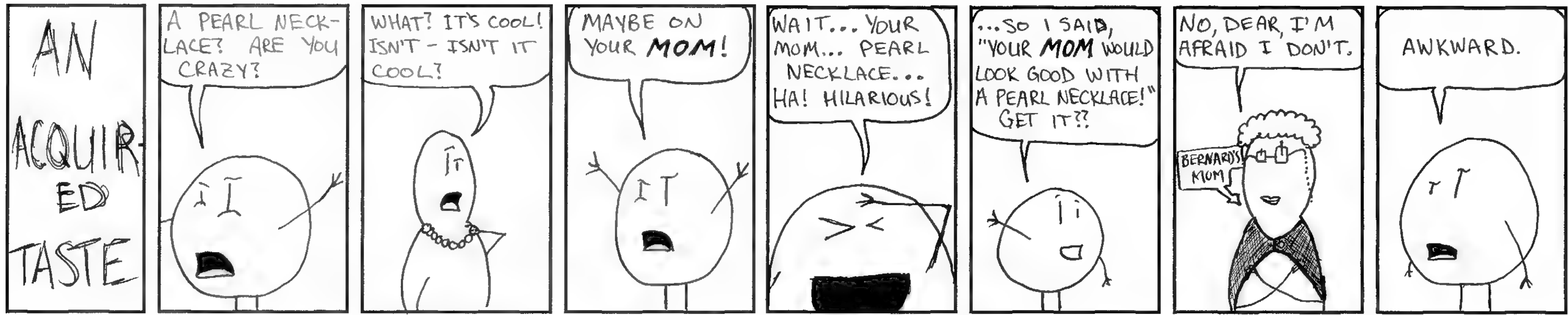
Have you noticed any changes made to the Gateway in the last year? Tell us about them.

Please add any additional comments here:

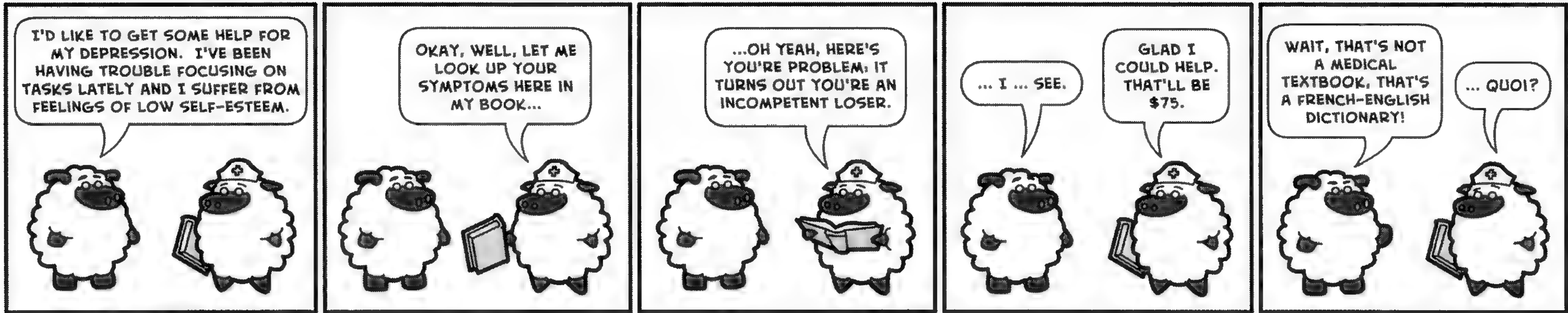
MAN VS NATURE by Conal Pierce



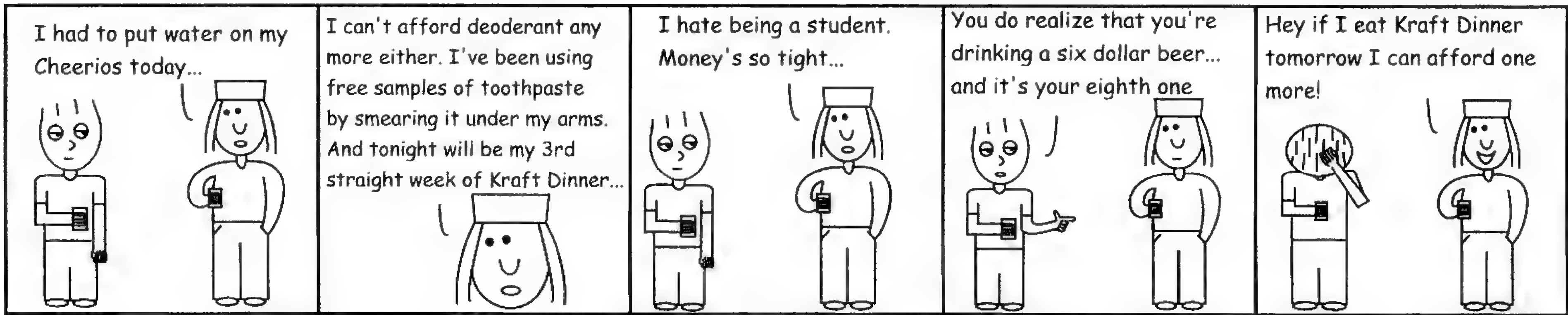
PEANUT & CIRCLE by Chris Krause



EWE OF A by Norman Lau



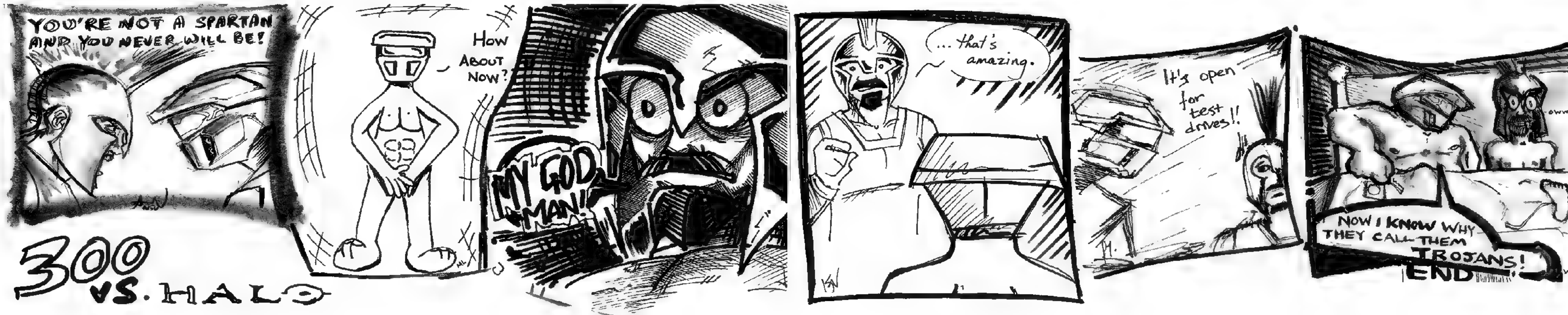
PITY MARKS by Steve Garner



STICKMAN by Jonn Gagnon



COMIC JAM by Matt Lui and the Comic Book Appreciation Society



THE MATH AND APPLIED SCIENCES CENTRE
 IS OFFERING
FINAL EXAM REVIEWS
 WITH
CARMEN & MARKUS



**Math 101, 102, 113/114, 115,
 120/125, 201, 209, 300**

Chem 102/105, 263

Stat 141, 151, 235

Phys 126, 230

CivE 270

Biol 107

EnPh 131

EnCmp 100



$$e^{\pi i} = -1$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx = \sqrt{2\pi}$$

$$\zeta(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^s}$$

Length: 4 hrs

Fee: \$40

(includes 4 hour class & review package with solutions)

Registration:

9:00-3:00 daily in

Room 126 Chemical-Materials Engineering

on the following days:

Wednesday-Thursday, 4-5 April

Tuesday-Friday, 10 -13 April

Monday-Friday, 16-20 April

Carmen & Markus

492-6272 / masc@ualberta.ca

Schedule: www.ualberta.ca/~masc

THE GATEWAY

thursday, 29 march, 2007
volume XCVII number 44

Published since 21 november, 1910
Circulation 12 000
ISSN 0845-356X

Suite 3-04
Students' Union Building
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
T6G 2J7

Telephone 780.492.5168
Fax 780.492.6665
Ad Inquiries 780.492.6700
E-mail gateway@gateway.ualberta.ca

editorialstaff

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Matt Frehner
ec@gate.way, ualberta.ca | 492 5168

MANAGING EDITOR Chlo   Fedio
managing@gate.way, ualberta.ca | 492 6654

SENIOR NEWS EDITOR Natalie Climenhaga
news@gate.way, ualberta.ca | 492 /308

DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR Scott Lilwall
deputynews@gate.way, ualberta.ca | 492 6664

OPINION EDITOR Adam Gaumont
opinon@gate.way, ualberta.ca | 492 6661

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR Amanda Ash
entertainment@gate.way, ualberta.ca | 492 /052

SPORTS EDITOR Paul Owen
sports@gate.way, ualberta.ca | 492 6652

PHOTO EDITOR Krystina Sulatycki
photo@gate.way, ualberta.ca | 492 6648

DESIGN & PRODUCTION EDITOR Mike Kendrick
production@gate.way, ualberta.ca | 492 6663

ONLINE COORDINATOR Ryan Heise
online@gate.way, ualberta.ca


businessstaff

BUSINESS MANAGER Steve Smith
bz@gate.way, ualberta.ca | 492 6669


AD SALES REPRESENTATIVE Patrick Ciolek
sales@gate.way, ualberta.ca | 492 6700

AD/GRAPHIC DESIGNER Dan Kazsior
design@gate.way, ualberta.ca | 492 6647

CIRCULATION PAL Scott C Bourgeois
CIRCULATION PAL Morgan Smith
circulation@gate.way, ualberta.ca | 492 6669



THE GATEWAY is published by the GateWay, Student Journalism Society, (GWS), a student-run, autonomous and totally not-for-profit organization that operates in accordance with the Societies Act of Alberta.



THE GATEWAY is proud to be a founding member of the Canadian University Press.

complaints

Comments, concerns, or complaints about the GateWay's content or operations should be first sent to the Editor-in-Chief at the address above. If the Editor-in-Chief is unable to resolve a complaint, it may be taken to the GateWay, Student Journalism Society's Board of Directors, and that appeals to the non-partisan Society, OmbudsBoard. The members of the Board of Directors and the OmbudsBoard can be reached at the address above.

copyright

All materials appearing in the GateWay bear copyright of the creator(s) and may not be used without written consent.

disclaimers

Opinions expressed in the pages of the GateWay, are expressly those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the GateWay or the GateWay, Student Journalism Society.

Additionally, the opinions expressed in advertisements appearing in the GateWay are those of the advertisers and not the GateWay or the GateWay, Student Journalism Society, unless explicitly stated.

colophon

The GateWay is created using Macintosh computers, Jmax PowerLook 1000 flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super CoolScan 4000 film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, and Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files. All content is printed directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of FENCE, Joanna, Kepler, and Whitney. The Manitoban is the GateWay's sister paper, and we owe her dearly, though not in that way. The GateWay's games of chance are Mani-Long and TMN, 1989 Arcade.

contributors

Ross NoName, Prusar, Ask Tom, Wagner, Catherine Scott, Bryan Saunders, Garret Kinjerski, B. L. L., Andre, A. Renfree, Rob in Co., Jim Nick Frost, Tre, or Phil, ps Mar, a Koto, ycn Co, n Ke, gner, Pat, ck Ross, E. za, petn Mc, M, an Pau, Kny, t, utor, J, argas, Jonn Kmech, Cnr s Krause, Norman Lau, Ste, e Garner, Jonn Gagnon, Matt L., Tara St, eg, tz, Lauren St, eg, tz, Ph, Head, M, ke Otto, Jonn Nau, t, Pete Yee, L, z Durden, Mar, a Koto, ycn, Jonn Kmech, Ram, n Ostad, Pau, B, no, Katn, een Be, Matt, H, 伯特, Ke, sey, Tanas, ck.

FUNday blinds spectators with science

GARRET KINJERSKI
News Writer

Science got a bit wild last Sunday as the University of Alberta student group Science FUNdamentals hosted their first-ever Science FUNday for 350 Edmontonians young and old.

The event was meant to stress the relevance of understanding and applying science in an entertaining and interactive way. Dinwoodie Lounge was revamped into a playground of science stations where the imaginations and curiosities of children could run loose in the realm of chemistry, biology and physics.

Amidst all this were more than 80 Science FUNdamentals volunteers demonstrating the quirky side of science with hands-on experiments, such as elephant toothpaste, DNA from peas and magic milk.

Coordinating the event was a third-year Science FUNdamentals volunteer, Kristy Baron.

"I think it's important to get [children] excited right away," Baron said. "I'd like for them to stop and think, 'Hey that's how that works,' and even if they don't want to be a scientist, just for them to know—static, that's fun!"

Also joining Science FUNday were guest speakers Dr Roy Jensen, an instructor of chemistry at Grant MacEwan and Dr Margaret Anne

Armour, assistant chair of the Chemistry Department at the U of A.

Jensen began the morning by burning combustibles to show their various characteristics and fittingly ended the presentation with a bang as he rocketed a pop bottle across the room.

"We're not only explaining science to the kids but also to the adults around them—there's a lot of opportunity here," Jensen said. "The goals with Science FUNdamentals and organizations like it, are to promote science education to children, adults and people of all ages—to emphasize the impact and relevance of science all around them."

Armour, though not as explosive as Jensen, continued to display elaborate chemical reactions while engaging the children to answer questions.

"The things I try to do are what kids enjoy watching, then you got them hooked, then you can explain to them all sorts of things that they will learn more easily than if you give them a bunch of facts," she said, adding that her own love for science, and particularly chemistry, motivated her to do the event.

"I love science, particularly chemistry, and what I'm trying to do is share that love of chemistry with young students so they can enjoy it too and really begin to understand why it's so important to enjoy it."



PHIL HEAD

BILL NYE WOULD BE PROUD FUNday showed the pros of being a science guy.

STREETERS

In Calgary, a woman was kicked off a city bus on 23 March, because the driver said her perfume was distracting him.

What's the most annoying thing that you notice on the bus?



Brittney Bugler
Campus St Jean II



Bobby Samuel
Bio Chemistry IV



Noemie Jenni
Agriculture III



Will Colford
English III

The weird burns in the back. No one ever wants to go sit in the back because they are afraid of the bums. I used to work on Whyte Ave and I was always afraid of that.

To be honest, I don't find anything annoying. I'm pretty easy going. If people have loud music playing, I don't really mind.

The smell of urine from the bum at the back of the bus, and people with big annoying backpacks. Other than that, the bus gets me where I wanna go.

People with loud, intimate cellphone conversations. And the overcrowding/not respecting of space limits.

Compiled and photographed by Olesia Plokhii and Jonn Kmech



Blood type doesn't matter when transplanting organs in babies

CATHERINE SCOTT
News Staff

Thanks to new research, the littles patients awaiting organ transplants now have a greater probability of finding a donor.

Dr Lori West, a pediatric cardiologist and the director of cardiac transplantation research at the U of A, explained that the immune system of a baby doesn't yet produce the proper antibodies to reject the blood of another type—thereby allowing successful organ transplants of mismatched blood types. She said that babies typically start to develop antibodies at about six months, but, if the transplant is done early enough in the baby's life, the organ is completely functional.

Normally, a person with blood type-O will produce anti-A and anti-B antibodies, which means that the patient will reject an organ from a donor with type-A or type-B blood. But West explained how, in the case of infants, their bodies will adapt to accommodate a different blood type.

"If you transplant [a] baby of blood group-O with the heart of a baby who's blood group-B, the little baby does make anti-A antibodies, but never makes anti-B antibodies," West said.

In infants, West has found the success rate of an organ transplant with

a matching blood type to be equal to that of an organ with a mismatched blood type. However, rejection based on blood type isn't the only worry when it comes to organ transplants.

"It made all the difference in the world at being able to offer a parent the possibility of a transplant and the possibility that there is a likelihood of a donor being found for their child."

**DR LORI WEST,
PEDIATRIC CARDIOLOGIST**

"Even if the blood groups matched, they'd still need immune-suppression [medication] because everything else about the heart is foreign," West explained.

According to West, there's a wider pool of organ donors available to infants in need of organ transplantation, thanks to this discovery. During her previous work in Toronto, she said that the mortality of those waiting for hearts fell from 50 per cent to less than ten per cent after they started performing the procedure. She added that the

primary motivation for the research was the imminent need for organs for babies who would otherwise die.

Infants are a very high-risk group when it comes to organ transplants. The organ has to fit in the infant's small body, the infant must be in stable condition and the infant must already be at a hospital capable of performing the particular transplant required in order to receive the organ on time.

"They were a very compelling group of patients to work with because they had so few options," West affirmed.

Before, West said it was very tough to have to break it to the parents that an organ transplant is absolutely necessary for their baby, while reminding them that the probability of receiving a compatible organ was very low. But with this new type of transplant being available, parents will receive more optimistic news.

"It made all the difference in the world at being able to offer a parent the possibility of a transplant and the possibility that there is a likelihood of a donor being found for their child," West said.

The first baby to receive an incompatible blood transplant that West worked with in 1996 is now a healthy eleven-year-old boy. West is still researching the age limit for performing these transplantations, as it's still unknown.

COUNCIL FORUM

Compiled by Ryan Heise

Students' Council meets every second Tuesday in the Council Chambers in University Hall at 6pm. Council meetings are open to all students. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 3 April.

QUESTION PERIOD

Science Councillor Theresa Chapman asked Students' Union Vice-President (External) David Cournoyer whether or not the release of the federal government's budget will impact postsecondary education now or in the future. Cournoyer responded by stating that most of the federal grants go towards graduate studies and research rather than undergrads. However, he did list some significant figures that the government provides to PSE such as \$800 million per year to the Canada Social Transfer earmarked for postsecondary education, as well as the elimination of the \$4000 limit on annual contributions to registered education savings plans (RESPs) and an increase to the lifetime contribution limit of RESPs.

Cournoyer was then asked about state of the U-Pass following the recent vote in favour of the referendum on 8 March. He said that he has been attending a number of meetings with the University as well as with Edmonton Transit System regarding how to distribute the U-Pass stickers to students next September.

President Samantha Power was questioned about what work had to be done on the new Coke contract since the passing of the Coke plebiscite. She said that the contract had been finalized prior to the plebiscite and that there wasn't much left to do save signing it.

Concerns were raised regarding the temperatures in RATT after Council decided to close the Powerplant over the summer and keep SUB's seventh-floor bar open instead. VP (Operations and

Finance) Chris Cunningham stated that heating and cooling in SUB has always been "wonky," but as long as they are diligent about watching it and informing RATT's managers, it shouldn't be a big problem. He also stated that RATT was formerly open year-round and cooling was never an issue.

Cunningham opted not to discuss specifics of future plans for the Powerplant at this time, but stated that there would be information regarding the future of the space released by the end of the term.

For more information on the decision to close the Powerplant over the summer, please see Gateway article by Ryan Heise on Thursday, 5 April.

Lastly, VP (Academic) Amanda Henry was asked about what the Executive is doing with the now-defunct Arts Students Association (ASA). Henry stated that there would be an Arts town hall meeting held on 29 March at 4pm at an undecided location to discuss what happened to the ASA and the process of creating a new body that she hopes will be in place over the summer.

SU GREENLIGHTS THE RED

A motion was passed to go in camera and reopen discussion on next year's budget principles. Council came ex camera approximately 45 minutes later.

On the table was whether or not council should add an amendment to the budget principles regarding whether or not the SU should run a deficit next year. A deficit, wouldn't exceed \$25 000 and would take the place of either budget cuts or fee increases. A similar amendment had been debated by Council several weeks ago, and was defeated.

While some councillors urged that making cuts in order to contain costs was better than running a deficit, Power pointed out that cuts have already been made, and many have been tabled that Council hasn't passed. Science Councillor Steven Dollansky, supported by many other councillors, furthered the argument against cuts by raising the point that the SU's services offered to students are by-and-large the most important aspect of

the SU and that budget cuts serve only to hinder this.

Power also shot down other concerns about the issues that may arise if the SU is unable to pay the deficit off in the future. She stated that an answer to dealing with a deficit wouldn't come in the short term, but would rather be something that next year's Executive would look at over the course of their year in office through close inspection of SU costs.

After more debate, the amendment to run a \$25 000 deficit if needed was passed and the budget was approved.

GUARANTEED WAY TO FILL THE SEATS

Pharmacy Councillor Joe Blais moved that Council adopt a new policy regarding teacher evaluations. The main point covered was that the dates that evaluations are to be conducted should be listed on course syllabi and that students should be given a minimum of two weeks notice if this date is to be changed. After little debate, Council passed the motion.

BLOW YOUR SAVINGS IN ONE PLACE

Power and Henry moved that Council adopt a policy for asking the Board of Governors to lobby the provincial government to roll tuition back to levels that students can save during the summer months. Concerns about a rollback affecting the quality of instruction and idea of whether lobbying for more targeted funding was a better option were raised. After a short debate, the motion passed and was referred to the External Policy Committee.

IMPROVING STUDENTS' SHELTER

Cournoyer moved that Council adopt a policy to advocated to the Government of Alberta to provide more funding to promoting affordability for student housing. This included covering property taxes, a one-time injection to cover deferred maintenance fees and capital funds toward the development of additional student housing. Many councillors were pleased to see non-tuition-based issues surrounding affordability being addressed and the motion easily passed.

www.su-venues.ca

A SERVICE OF YOUR STUDENTS' UNION FOR U OF A STUDENTS, STAFF AND ALUMNI.

NEW 2007 MENU AND FOODS

RATT

- MON - WED 11 AM TO 1 AM
- LAST CALL AT MIDNIGHT
- THURS 11 AM TO 2 AM
- LAST CALL AT 1 AM
- FRI 11 AM TO 3 AM
- LAST CALL AT 2 AM
- SAT 3 PM TO 3 AM
- LAST CALL AT 2 AM

HEY! new hours

THE POWERPLANT

BAR HOURS

- THURS - FRI 11 AM TO 2 AM
- SAT 8 PM TO 2 AM

RELAXATION SPACE

- MON - WED 8AM - 8PM
- POWERPLANT BREAKFAST
- 8AM TO 11AM
- POWERPLANT DINNER (MENU SERVICE):
- 2PM TO 6PM (MON - WED)
- 2PM TO MIDNIGHT (THURS-FRI)
- POWERPLANT COFFEE HOUSE
- MON TO FRI 8AM TO 6PM

oh...and don't forget

happy hour:

RATT >> MONDAY TO FRIDAY >> 2-6 PM

draught pint and jug specials >>>>>

powerplant >> THURS AND FRI >> 2-6 PM

>> UPCOMING @ RATT

OILER GAMES

DON'T FORGET:

RATT GIVES AWAY A PAIR OF TICKETS 1/2 HOUR BEFORE EVERY HOME GAME.

ALL PAY-PER-VIEW OILER GAMES WILL BE SHOWN AT RATT.

OILER FANS:

RATT WILL STILL BE AIRING THE LAST FIVE GAMES OF THE SEASON.

FLAMES FANS:

YOU ARE ALL WELCOME TO ENJOY ANY TELEVISED FLAMES GAMES IN RATT - INCLUDING POSSIBLE PLAYOFFS. LUCKY STIFFS.

MOLSON CANADIAN JUGS ARE \$9.75 DURING THE GAME, CANADIAN BOTTLES ARE \$3.

>>> RATT AND MOLSON CANADIAN WILL BE GIVING AWAY A PAIR OF TICKETS TO EVERY HOME GAME. DRAWS ARE MADE 1/2 HOUR BEFORE EACH GAME <<<

MONDAY, APRIL 2 7PM

NCAA FINAL FOUR CHAMPIONSHIP GAME AT RATT.

SOME AMERICAN SCHOOL WILL FACE SOME OTHER AMERICAN SCHOOL. ONE WILL WIN.

POWERPLANT BUFFET

STILL GOING STRONG AT LUNCH

EVERY DAY FROM 1130AM TO 2PM

DON'T FORGET

TUESDAY IS ROAST BEEF DAY!

GREAT, HOT FOOD

STARTING MAY 1

RATT WILL BE YOUR CAMPUS BAR OPEN FOR BUSINESS THIS SUMMER. ENJOY THE SUMMER VIEW UPSTAIRS.

RATT IS OPEN ALL SUMMER

JOB OPPORTUNITY

**The Family Centre
Residential Services**

Mature and knowledgeable Mentors to work with children/youth, age 10 – 18 yrs who have struggled in traditional residential settings and require a family oriented environment. Mentors provide live-in support based on a relational, developmental therapeutic model.

Requires:

- Diploma or degree in Child and Youth Care (preferable) or Human Services or equivalent
- Residential/foster care experience
- Experience working with children/youth with developmental delays, Tourette's Syndrome, autism, and behavioral challenges
- Aboriginal cultural knowledge an asset
- Security Clearance and CWIS within the last 6 months
- You are strength-based and have a nurturing ability to provide holistic service in a strategic therapeutic team environment.

We have opportunities for:
and

12 hour shifts – Competition # 741
24 hour shifts – Competition # 742

Please forward cover letter and resume by March 30, 2007 to:
Marie Blanchette #20, 9912-106 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 1C5
Fax: 780-423-4313

E-mail: human.resources@the-family-centre.com
http://www.the-family-centre.com/contact_us/careeropportunities.html
Equal Opportunity Employer

We thank all candidates for your interest, but only those chosen for an interview will be contacted.

Canada's Cheapest Student Flights to London



Travel CUTS customers get an additional

\$100 off*

ZOOM's already incredibly low fares.

BOOK EARLY, ONLY AT TRAVEL CUTS.

*Ask our Agents for details and availability.

Students' Union Building
U of A 492-2592

HUB Mall, U of A
492-2756

TRAVEL CUTS
Canada's Student Travel Experts

www.travelcuts.com
1-888-FLY-CUTS (359-2887)

To retire or not to retire, prof asks

RETIREMENT • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

However, the elimination of mandatory retirement at the U of A has put some professors approaching 65 in a difficult position. Dr Chris Hale, who would have had to retire at the end of the 2007/08 academic year, now has to decide whether he will retire as previously planned or stay on.

Hale, who runs the Scandinavian studies program in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies said that if he does retire, there's no guarantee that someone will fill his shoes.

"Does that mean then that I get replaced? So far there's been no word that I will be," he said. "If I stay on then the program survives for another year or two or three or however long I end up staying. So the question is: what am I going to do?"

"Of course, I planned to retire at 65 because it was mandatory, but now things have changed so I don't know really what I'm going to do," Hale added, stating that he now feels partially obligated to stay if only to ensure that the program continues.

However, Hale said that while there may be arguments against mandatory retirement, on the whole he considers



KRYSTINA SULATYCKI

FREEDOM 68? Professor Hale must now decide if he'll still retire next year.

it to a good idea—a sentiment shared by Students' Union President Samantha Power.

"It will keep those faculty [members] who are really in their prime and have perfected what they're doing, so I think it's a definite benefit to students," Power said.

The decision still needs to be ratified by the U of A Association of

Academic Staff to be effective on 30 June. Johnson noted that so far the response to the Board of Governors' vote has been positive.

"Sometime in the next two-to-three weeks the material will be all prepared, there'll be a vote, and my sense is given the notices that came in, the majority of people were certainly in favour of it," he said.

Study yields positive results for babies

DEPRESSION • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The results of the pilot study of eleven mother-baby pairs are promising, Short enthused. By associating different facial cues with different emotions, levels of particular emotions were measured. Using this technique, the babies were shown as having a level of interest of 39 per cent in the mother before the intervention. After going through the Keys to Caregiving Program, that figure was up to 67 per cent. The level of joy went from almost four per cent before, to 13 per cent afterwards.

The heightened level of interest, Short explained, is very significant.

"If the baby is indifferent and not

participating then it is not going to be developing in the appropriate way," he said.

In addition to improvements in the baby's mental and emotional health, Short suggested that the baby's physical health also might benefit.

"We're talking now about body weight changes and so on," he said. An improved psychological environment has a noted impact on a baby's physical development.

Short said the implications of this research are vast. Like many forms of depression, postpartum depression is all too common and, paradoxically, very rarely acknowledged or discussed.

According to several medical websites, it's estimated that 20 per cent—one of every five women giving birth—will suffer from some severity of postpartum afterwards. Seventy per cent of pregnant women will suffer from the less severe "baby blues."

Furthermore, the Keys to Caregiving program could be beneficial to women who aren't suffering from postpartum depression, Short said.

"Particularly with young women," he said. "People who are having babies in their teens that really don't know how to deal with a newborn, I think learning these types of skills are very advantageous."

Experience

SPANISH

Edmonton Hispanic Bilingual Association
Asociación Bilingüe Hispánica de Edmonton

25TH
ANNIVERSARY!

DISTINCTIVE PROGRAMS

- Friendly, cultural learning environment
- Adults: 9 integrated levels (fall/wint/spring)
- Children/Youth: 4 levels by age (fall/wint)
- Qualified instructional team
- Fall, Winter and Spring terms
- Families and seniors welcome

HISPANIC CLUB

- Free membership with registration
- Social activities, dinners, dance workshops
- Annual Spring Latin Fiesta
- Café *tertulia* (weekly), films (monthly)
- Multimedia/periodical exchange service
- Volunteer Opportunities

**SPRING TERM
2007**

CLASSES:

ONE DAY WEEKLY FOR 10 WEEKS

Wednesday Evenings

Adults only
7 pm to 9:30 pm
Registration: April 4, 7:30–9pm
Classes start: April 11, 7–9:30pm

Ritchie Junior High School
9750 – 74 Avenue
Ample parking and bus routes

We are a registered (#50257836), non-profit society and heritage school recognized by Alberta Learning since 1981.

**SPACE LIMITED TO
16 CLASSROOMS**

**REGISTRATION
Wednesday**

April 4, 7:30 – 9:00 pm

At later dates ask for your name
to be added to the waiting list for
possible openings.

MORE INFO:

call

472-0532

or visit

www.ehba.org

Violence leaves more than one victim behind



**Victims
of Homicide**
Families Coping with Death by Violence

Edmonton's Victims of Homicide Support Society is a self-help group that offers emotional support and information to those that have lost of a loved one to murder. For more information, visit our website, or phone 780-472-8958.

www.victimsofhomicide.ca

Canada must adopt UN declaration on indigenous rights: Littlechild

LITTLECHILD • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Littlechild further said that the road to change was a long one. He explained how in 1926, the first indigenous people's delegation to ever visit the League of Nations, made up of members of the Iroquois Six Nations, went to the League's headquarters in Geneva. However, they, like a Maori delegation very shortly afterward, weren't even received by the Assembly there.

By the '50s and '60s, the international indigenous peoples movement had begun to gain momentum, as groups from across the world banded together with similar complaints ranging from the banning of indigenous culture and language to genocide. However, in 1977, history repeated itself when once again, when an international indigenous delegation, this time headed by Littlechild, were still not allowed in the UN buildings, this time in New York.

"In 1977, we couldn't even get into the building," Littlechild remembered. "With elders with four pipes leading the way, we locked elbows, four-by-four, and marched."

However, soon after that event he said things began to move rather quickly for the indigenous people's movement. By 1993, the UN had declared "The Year of the Indigenous People" and by 2002 had established the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, to which Littlechild was appointed representative for North America.

However, despite these large steps forward in a relatively short period of time, Littlechild expressed frustration at Canada's, as well as Alberta's, refusal to accept the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, something already honoured by most other nations and political bodies—such as the State of Arizona less than three weeks ago on 12 March.

"The delegation from Canada was one of only two countries to vote against the Declaration," remarked Littlechild. "[We] could look to our neighbours down south [for leadership]."

By refusing to accept this declaration, Littlechild feels Canada has created two sets of laws, with indigenous peoples on the bottom end.

However, he ended the speech on



BEATING INJUSTICE A traditional sweetgrass and drum ceremony followed Wilton Littlechild's speech Monday night.

hopeful note, saying that in the past 30 years, indigenous peoples worldwide have made great successes in their attempts for respect, recognition

and justice. He also expressed hope for the continued fight for human rights.

"All of you sitting there, you have a story. Continue to do what you do,

and I look forward to the day when you are up here [on this stage] and we can all become better people," Littlechild said.

Fact: 28 March marked the 28th-year anniversary of the 1979 Three Mile Island disaster. During the early hours, the nuclear powerplant located on Three Mile Island in Pennsylvania began overheating. Plant operators eventually got the situation under control, but an explosion days later released radioactive materials into the atmosphere. Some plant employees were exposed to unhealthy doses of radiation, although nearby residents were apparently unaffected. Since the crisis, not one nuclear powerplant has been ordered in the US.

Fact: Just like the dream of a nuclear-powered America, the *Gateway's* regular publishing schedule is coming to an end. Now's your chance to attend a *Gateway News* meeting, held in 3-04 SUB Fridays at 3pm, while you still can. Or consider volunteering for our summer issues.



GATEWAY NEWS
Splitting the mighty atom since 1910

This could be your laundromat.
Ça pourrait être votre buanderie.

www.canada123go.ca 1-877-go123go

TRAVEL & WORK ABROAD
VOYAGER ET TRAVAILLER À L'ÉTRANGER



Foreign Affairs and
International Trade Canada

Affaires étrangères et
Commerce international Canada

Canada

Emergency women’s shelter in Vancouver’s Eastside salvaged

ERIC SZETO
CUP Western Bureau Chief

VANCOUVER (CUP)—The moribund Downtown Eastside Women’s Centre Emergency Shelter, a refuge that houses up to 100 homeless women on many nights, was granted a six-month lease on life last week.

On 22 March, BC Housing, the province’s subsidized-housing agency, granted the emergency shelter \$160 000 to stay open for another half year, until a more permanent housing solution is hammered out. The centre first began operation in November 2006.

The shelter’s existence was in limbo because the \$80 000 granted in November by BC Housing was to run out at the end of the month. Up until last week, BC Housing had given no indication as to whether it would extend funding.

The women’s shelter has grown in popularity in recent months and has been providing food, shelter and clothing to people in increasing numbers. Patrons said it becomes so full on some nights that sleeping bodies scattered all across the floor block the way.

Harsha Walia, project coordinator for the centre, expressed concern

that, if the safe-haven was to shut down, women from all walks of life—seniors, mothers with children, drug users and prostitutes—would be left to fend for themselves on the street. In many cases, she said, women would have to resort to extreme measures like drugs and prostitution to stay safe.

But despite the funding, advocates like Walia are demanding a more permanent solution to the long-term social housing crisis.

“Shelters are not the solution to homelessness,” she said. “We want long-term funding that’s not a Band-Aid solution. Sleeping on floors is not a dignified solution to homelessness.”

Sam Rainboth, public relations for BC Housing, said that they have been in discussions with the Downtown Eastside Women’s Centre and is optimistic that a permanent solution can be finalized before the six-month funding runs out.

Standing outside in the rain and wearing a borrowed pair of shoes, Patricia Dove, a frequent visitor to the Women’s Centre, said that without the shelter there would be nowhere to go.

“It’s ridiculous, you see women sleeping on the street,” she said. “Take

[Robert] Pickton’s case. No wonder he had so much access to women. There’s no housing.”

Pickton has been charged with the murders of 26 women from the Downtown Eastside, where more than 50 women have gone missing since the ’90s.

“The government needs to wake up,” she added. “How many more women have to go missing and die before they listen?”

Beverly O’Reilly, who also uses the shelter regularly, said the expedited gentrification of the Downtown Eastside due to the upcoming 2010 Olympics is exacerbating the homelessness problem.

According to a Greater Vancouver Regional District report, there has been a 60 per cent increase in homeless women since 2002. Pivot Legal Society research shows that the gentrification leading to the Olympics will triple the almost 2000 homeless people in Vancouver by 2010.

“There are hotels here booting everybody out,” she said referring to the Burns Block closure—a single-residence occupancy hotel in the Downtown Eastside that saw 18 residents evicted after getting only an hour’s notice last year.

Québec students will strike for free education

Postsecondary education could and should be free for all students, explain one-day strike promoters

MARK IHNATOWYCZ
The McGill Daily

MONTREAL (CUP)—A province-wide student association, *l’Association pour une solidarité syndicale étudiante* (ASSÉ), will lead a Québec-wide strike demanding free postsecondary education today.

“Free education would cost \$550 million, according to an independent study—less than one per cent of the provincial budget,” said Alex Bourdon-Charest, secretary-general of the ASSÉ Coordination Council, referring to an ASSÉ-commissioned study released last January.

According to first-year McGill University student Jessyka Boulanger, who last week collected the 500 signatures necessary to hold a general assembly yesterday on whether McGill students should formally join the strike, students’ participation in the strike would bring their voices to the forefront of the movement for free education. The results of the general assembly weren’t available as of press time, however, undergraduates mandated the McGill student society to fight for free education in February.

“The question is, how far are we willing to go to fight for education?” Boulanger asked.

In Montréal, the one-day strike will culminate in a demonstration at McGill in the early afternoon. According to Bourdon-Charest, the strike’s main objective is to mobilize both students and concerned citizens to fight for free tuition.

He said demonstrators would also push the government to improve library and infrastructural resources, as well as establish a more accessible and flexible public childcare system at

postsecondary institutions.

But with the provincial election occurring just four days before the strike, Trevor Hanna, a vice-president for *la Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec* (FEUQ), Québec’s larger, centrist student association, questioned why ASSÉ chose to wait until after the election instead of demonstrating before election day, as FEUQ did.

“The question is, how far are we willing to go to fight for education?”

JESSYKA BOULANGER, MCGILL STUDENT

“[ASSÉ] had it planned well in advance, with no consideration of the electoral process,” Hanna said. “[FEUQ] planned [our demonstration] specifically before [the election] so that whatever party came into power knew they would have to deal with us.”

Bourdon-Charest said that ASSÉ’s decision to organize the strike after the election was strategic, arguing that it doesn’t matter which party forms the government.

“The position of ASSÉ is to stay out of the electoral campaign,” Bourdon-Charest said. “No matter who the government is, our education is in danger.”

He added that ASSÉ’s goals are considerably different from FEUQ’s, as ASSÉ focuses on free education and FEUQ restricts itself to maintaining the tuition-fee freeze.

“Some people can’t study even with the freeze. We want full student accessibility,” Bourdon-Charest explained.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEF

DNA ANALYSIS DETERMINES IDENTITY OF FIRST WWI SOLDIER

THUNDER BAY, ONT (CUP)—Thanks to the Paleo-DNA Lab research team at Lakehead University, Private Herbert Peterson is the first Unknown Soldier to be named using a DNA identification process.

A second First World War soldier found in France with Peterson hasn’t yet been identified, but Dr. Carney Matheson’s Lakehead University research team hopes for identification soon.

There are likely many other unknown soldiers who died in the Battle of Vimy Ridge. And once their remains are found, Lakehead researchers from the departments of history, anthropology and biology will work together to find out who they were.

Much attention has been brought to the important biological aspects of the research, but Captain David Ratz, a history teacher at Lakehead, explained that the sometimes-overlooked historical analysis helps to uncover crucial information.

“By understanding the history of Vimy Ridge, it allows for accurate information,” he said. “We can determine the scenario and circumstances to determine the death of the soldiers.”

The historical analysis helps to prove or refute hypotheses with accurate facts. By examining the stains on the bones, researchers are able to determine what caused them. A blue-stained thighbone suggests that copper or brass caused it.

“A soldier would have had plenty of copper or brass on him, such as bullets, badges, belts and canteens,” Ratz explained, but noted that the remains of the soldiers that are being identified don’t actually come to Canada. Researchers only receive the DNA and photos of the bones.

“Up until Afghanistan, it was normal Canadian practice to keep bodies where they were killed, with the exception of Germany where they were buried in Belgium, France, [and] Holland,” Ratz said.

Melissa Gaudette, Argus

Take charge of your career
with our online real estate
education programs



Real Estate Division
Sauder School of Business, UBC

www.realestate.ubc.ca
toll-free: 1.877.775.7733
ubcinfo@realestate.sauder.ubc.ca

Diploma Program in Urban Land Economics

Gain an in-depth understanding of the economic, legal, and financial principles that underlie the real estate industry. This nationally recognized online credit program is designed for both practitioners and for highly motivated people seeking to join the industry.

Post-Graduate Certificate in Real Property Valuation

Leading to the Appraisal Institute of Canada’s AACI designation, this online program provides business school graduates with an accelerated path to a career in the property valuation profession.

Early Registration Deadlines

Summer Term I:	April 15, 2007
Winter Term I:	July 15, 2007

Registrations and completed admissions applications received by the early registration deadlines are eligible for a **\$50 discount**.



Opening Worlds

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

MCAT


Made Easy!

McGraw-Hill's MCAT includes:

- More than 1,100 pages of topic reviews, quizzes, model essays, and test-taking strategies
- Hundreds of science diagrams to clarify concepts and simplify your review
- “Cram Sessions” for every topic to help you focus on what you really need to know
- 2 complete sample exams on CD for on-screen practice just like the real test
- Exclusive access to MCATeasy.com for hundreds of additional practice questions in all MCAT subjects

0-07-147076-X • 978-0-07-147076-6 • \$78.95

AVAILABLE AT YOUR CAMPUS BOOKSTORE



McGraw-Hill's MCAT includes:

- Surefire strategies for every question type
- Sample essays for the MCAT Writing Sample
- Detailed explanations for all questions
- Includes FREE access to MCATeasy.com Online review and practice
- 2 PRACTICE MCATs ON CD
- 1 in the book and on disk
- 1 more on disk only

George J. Hademenos, Ph.D. • Candice J. McCluskey, Ph.D. • Shawn Murphy, Ph.D. • Jennifer M. Warner, MS • Kathy A. Zoller, MS Education

MCAT is a registered trademark of the Association of American Medical Colleges, which does not warrant the preparation of any one test candidate. This question

Harper playing his cards right

IN THE POKER GAME OF CANADIAN POLITICS, Stephen Harper is starting to look a lot less like Ed Norton and a lot more like Johnny Chan.

The Prime Minister took a lot of flack for declaring Québec to be a nation within a nation, but in light of the Conservative budget passing and the rise of conservative non-separatists in *la belle province*, Harper is suddenly looking pretty good.

By giving a symbolic sign of respect to French Canadians, Harper dealt with a lot of criticism, but apparently his message got through to the Québécois, who, despite what your dad always told you, are an important part of Canada too. And it seems as though they're responding favourably to that message.

The Conservatives have kept the goodwill of the Bloc Québécois, uniting with Gilles Duceppe's party on several ideological fronts while not allowing Québec to be the cigarette-waving elephant in the room. The budget marked the best opportunity for the other parties to force an election since the nation debate, and the fact that it was voted through marks a huge boost to the Harper minority, keeping them in power and preventing the third federal election in four years.

More importantly, Harper appears to have some allies in the powder keg of Canadian politics. With the conservative non-sovereignist Action Démocratique du Québec (ADQ) party taking official opposition status in Québec's National Assembly—and knocking the Liberals out of a majority government in the process—the Conservatives can look forward to the separation issue becoming even more diffused as the Parti Québécois' political clout shrinks even more.

With both the Liberal and sovereignist movements losing ground and with conservative values gaining in the province, Harper has reason to be excited about the way Québecers are voting. Though provincial results don't always translate over to the federal level, the rise in right-wing voters bodes well for the Conservatives in the province where they've had a difficult time grabbing a foothold in the past two elections.

As Québec is seeming like less of a problem every day, Harper has also been addressing the concerns of his other critics—he stopped off in Edmonton to announce federal funding to reduce emissions. While there are concerns with his plan to pump it into *the middle of the fucking Earth*, at least Even Stephen is making strides to appease environmentalists. With Stéphane Dion pushing a strong environmental agenda, Harper is taking some of his steam by focusing on the same issues and trying to find solutions to the questions Dion is raising. Harper's increasing environmental focus started with the removal of Rona Ambrose as Environment minister—a position she was making a mockery of—and has continued to gain momentum as it has become a bigger issue to Canadians.

While many still don't agree with Conservative politics, it's hard to deny that the PM is doing a good job at balancing his party's ideals with the concerns of the opposition in Parliament. Once under heavy scrutiny, things are all going Harper's way now. He's also playing the minority government role to a T, doing what he needs to in order to keep power while not being afraid to bring motions before Parliament. It took a little patience, but it seems that now, all the cards are coming up Stevie.

PAUL OWEN
Sports Editor

Second time's a charm

TUESDAY'S STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING PROVED once again why our union's governing body is worthy of neither our respect nor our attention. Though councillors torpedoed a previous meeting's proposal of allowing the Students' Union to run a deficit budget, our esteemed representatives saw fit to pass the *exact same motion* this time around.

It's unsettling to hear that something voted down a mere two weeks earlier was revisited and passed once councillors were able to rethink the proposal and review the issues at hand. My question is: what the fuck were they thinking the first time around?

MATT FREHNER
Editor-in-Chief

LETTERS

The squeaky nurse gets the grease

I was appalled at the article on the front page of the Gateway [on] 22 March (re: "Nursing Grades Exposed"). I feel their [sic] were some glairing [sic] mistakes that may end up costing some exceptional professionals their jobs, and it is the Gateway's fault for perpetrating these.

I am one of the students affected by this so called "exposure" and am fully satisfied with what the administration has done. First, an apology was given to the students by those responsible. I have no idea where my learned friend Mr Harding was because, to tell you the truth, no one even knows who he is.

Second, the students complaining are those that did not follow the original direction of deleting the e-mail, such as Mr Harding. Next, the ID numbers of students were not right beside their names; in fact, they were associated with an incorrect name. I myself did not observe any "academic probation" comments either.

Lastly, Amanda Tsui is quoted as saying [that] "people in my classes were appalled." That is funny because in my class, the class affected, I would say very few cared and actually told the professor responsible to not worry as she nearly started crying. I am disgusted that the tyranny of the few is considered the voice of the majority. Perhaps, when Mr Harding talks about professionalism, he should look closer at himself and ask if it is the press he should have went to first or his administration. Greater research should be done by your staff before they report.

TREVOR GILL
BSc Nursing 11

Grades gaff patched up

I am writing to clarify some points in Allison Grant's letter concerning the "Nursing grades exposed" article (re: "Lay off Nursing dep't," 27 March). The following pieces of information should help.

First off, there is a misunderstanding about who the affected people are in this incident. The grades released belonged to both after-degree students as well as fourth-year collaborative program students such as Victor Harding. He was not on the after-degree mailing list so it was not possible for him to follow the progression of e-mails. There are students like Mr Harding who did not receive a debriefing or an apology in class (which he attended). Negligence does not apply to students like Mr Harding.

The culture of this University is built on a foundation of active inquiry and open dialogue. It should be well within the capability of a professional faculty such as Nursing to engage in that dialogue and inquiry when an error is made and to do so without resorting to personal attacks.

Ms Grant's letter conveyed to me a genuine sense of caring for the future of the associate coordinator. I share this concern; it is one of the reasons I spoke to the Gateway. I wanted to ensure that news coverage was fair. I owe thanks to the Deputy News

IN MY DAY, WE DIDN'T HAVE ALL THESE NEWFANGLED CONVENIENCES THAT THE KIDS TODAY HAVE! WE HAD TO DO THINGS THE HARD WAY! TODAY, YOU WHIPPERSNAPPERS ARE LUCKY TO HAVE THE INTERWEBS AND THE TELEBOXES ON THE RADIO WAVE STATIONS. IF WE WANTED TO RESEARCH A PAPER, BE DANGED IF WE COULD GO TO THE LIBRARY! I TELL YOU, WE HAD TO TAKE THE BUS THREE TOWNS AWAY, AND IN THOSE DAYS, BUSES WERE POWERED BY DOGS! I MYSELF HAD ONE OF THE FINEST YOUNG TRANSIT-HOUNDS. A PURE-BRED SHIT-TERRIER HE WAS! I ONCE MET A YOUNG BELLE BY THE NAME OF JOSEPHINE WHEN MY HOUND, AMBROTIUS, WENT A DIGGIN' IN HER MOTHER'S GARDEN FOR SOME CABBAGES. MY MOTHER ONCE GAVE ME A RECIPE FOR THE FINEST OF HER PRIZE-WINNING CABAGE STEW AND ...



The downside of dropping mandatory retirement for aging professors

MIKE KENDRICK

Students still need to care

(Re: "Unnecessary Courses 101," 27 March). I would like to thank Ms Malcolm for proving why there is a need for better awareness of sustainability issues on campus: while a class is not the solution *per se*, her article provides ample evidence that our current approach to environmental awareness is not enough to address the very real issues that our collective generation will face in our lifetimes.

While we sit on campus and congratulate ourselves for "reading the odd article" and discussing the Kyoto Accord in class, people outside of our very cozy University life must live with the consequences of our comfortable, consumer-driven lifestyle. It [takes] more than flipping off light switches and recycling paper. We must situate ourselves within the greater global context and understand what social, economic and political factors shape the current situation.

Our demand for cheap products, electronics, tropical fruit in January, gas to heat our inefficiently built homes [and] coal-fire electricity plants to keep us air-conditioned in the summer all have physical, social and political consequences for people in the regions that produce the materials and goods to provide us with the comforts we enjoy.

And the issues are closer than we think; one only needs to drive up to Fort McMurray or venture out to a sour gas well to see how ecologically and socially unsustainable our current practices are. I...believe that the only way to truly address the issue is to treat it as a *dialogue*. Nobody gains from preaching about sustainability; we also gain nothing from sitting back and accepting things as they are.

Ms Malcolm refers to *An Inconvenient Truth*. I suggest a few more films for her viewing pleasure: *Manufactured Landscapes*, *Refugees of the Blue Planet*, and *Bhopal*. Perhaps this will provide some insight [into] why we can't afford to accept things as they are and why relying solely on our "moral conscience" will only lead to further economic, social and ecological hardship in the years to come.

ZOE TODD
Graduate Studies

Let's use grown-up talk

(Re: "Truth more retarded than fiction," 22 March). Are you serious? I can't believe this "catchy" title made it to print. Rule number one for conveying dignity and respect towards people with a disability through language is *not* to use person-first language. In the same way that a toilet cannot really be "disabled," nor can the truth (or fiction, if I was to get picky) be "retarded." Rule number two is to avoid using outdated terms—so you scored the double feature with this one!

I know this is a student-oriented paper and it is supposed to be "edgy" or whatever. But does that mean appealing to the lowest common denominator by using playground slang? That is disrespectful.

I don't mind the swearing. I don't mind your opinion. However I do expect language to be used respectfully. Language convey beliefs and attitudes which can then in turn affect behaviour. You're not in the playground anymore.

KIM ASHBY
Phys Ed III

Canada still has its skeletons

While may be a tolerant and diverse nation today, this wasn't always the case—and though some of it is well documented, you may not know about these gems



MARIA
KOTOVYCH

Contrary to popular belief, studying history is more than just memorizing a bunch of facts and dates. Nor is Canadian history boring by any means: we've had our share of sex scandals, revolutions, labour unrest and flashy celebrities. Sadly, Canada has also had its share of racism too. Lots and lots of racism.

We've all heard of the residential schools, the Chinese head tax, the Exclusion Act and the Japanese internment camps during WWII. Despite the attention that these historical events have received, there are still many others that are more obscure—in other words, not the kind of stuff you'd see in the CBC's "Heritage Minutes."

By 1938, Prime Minister Mackenzie "I see dead people" King had put a severe restriction on the number of Jewish refugees that Canada would accept, poo-pooing the idea that Canada's immigration policy should worry about this trifle called "humanitarian concerns." Between 1933–1939, 800 000 Jewish refugees left lands occupied by the Nazis. How many did Canada accept? 4000. In 1938–39, Canada accepted only about 2500 Jews, one of the worst records of the Western countries. The denial of sanctuary to Jewish refugees from Europe remains one of the most shameful episodes in Canadian history.

Even when the existing Jewish community in Canada offered to finance all of the refugees' costs, King didn't budge. In 1939, a ship called the SS St Louis (carrying 900 Jewish passengers from Europe) was rejected first by Cuba, then the US and finally by Canada. The ship was forced to return back to Europe, and you can probably guess what happened to those people.

Despite the attention that these historical events have received, there are still many others that are more obscure—in other words, not the kind of stuff you'd see in the CBC's "Heritage Minutes."

This wasn't the first time Canada denied passengers entry for racial reasons either. Before the SS St Louis, there was the Komagata Maru. In 1914, this ship brought nearly 400 Punjabis to Vancouver. These individuals (who, coming from India, were actually British subjects) were refused entry to Canada. They were turned away under the guise of the "continuous journey" requirement that Canada's Immigration Act had implemented six years earlier under the direction of Frank "white is right" Oliver.

The "continuous journey" requirement stipulated that any vessel travelling from Asia had to come directly to Canada without making any stops;

since the Komagata Maru had been chartered in Hong Kong, the people aboard this ship hadn't made a direct trip from India, so they were turned away. This requirement makes as much sense as telling someone to drive across Canada without stopping to pee, and was equally impossible to achieve.

Before Americans had Rosa Parks, Canadians had Viola Desmond, whose story sadly remains more obscure than that of Parks. In 1946, Desmond, a Black woman from Halifax, went to see a movie in New Glasgow, NS. She was unaware of the theatre's segregationist seating policy: Blacks in the balcony, Whites on the main floor.

Desmond tried to sit on the main floor; however, she was told that she hadn't paid the appropriate amount of tax for the more expensive main-floor seat and that she would have to sit upstairs instead. Despite her offers to pay the difference in tax (one cent), the theatre refused to sell her the more expensive ticket. Desmond didn't budge, so she was arrested, tried (without a lawyer present) and fined for "tax evasion."

During this trial, nobody said anything about the theatre's segregationist seating policy, so her case was handled like a simple incidence of tax evasion. Later, Desmond tried to appeal to Nova Scotia's Supreme Court, but she lost. Segregation didn't become illegal in Nova Scotia until 1954.

Sadly, xenophobia, if not outright racism, still occurs in our country today—Hérouxville, anyone? This tells me either Canadians don't know their history, or they simply refuse to learn from it.

Suckling at the Mother Corp's teat



COLIN
KEIGHER

They say what's right isn't always popular, and what's popular isn't always right. This especially true when it comes to public broadcasting and the CBC, which in its 71-year history has defined what standard the media in our country should hold itself up to.

Many don't realize what the CBC actually does beyond its Internet, radio, and television presence. If you think that the "Mother Corp," as both its fans and its critics lovingly refer to it, only delivers nightly newscasts, Hockey Night in Canada and low-budget satirical Canadiana, you're sadly mistaken.

For instance, just two years ago, they began to offer podcasts of their radio shows from CBC Radios One, Two and Three. In the first year of these podcasts' existence, they were one of the top downloaded podcasts on the iTunes store—and still are today.

Perennially ahead of the technological curve, the CBC launched its website way back in 1993, when Internet access was exotic—and dial-up—coming out with a streaming audio feed just three years later.

The Mother Corp also focuses on Canadian content. For example,

"Unlike other commercial networks, the CBC provides high-quality programming that would otherwise be relegated to cable TV networks such as Discovery or TLC, who would probably water down the quality due to their reliability of funds from ad revenue and TV subscribers."

looking at its prime-time broadcasts, 60 per cent of the overall programming will be of Canadian origin. Compare this to either Bell's CTV or CanWest's Global networks, where they too sell themselves as distinctly Canadian, even though not much of their nightly programming is actually of Canadian origin.

More importantly, unlike other commercial networks, the CBC provides high-quality programming that would otherwise be relegated to cable TV networks such as Discovery or TLC, who would probably water down the quality due to their reliability of funds from ad revenue and TV subscribers.

Extraordinary programs such as *The Nature of Things*, *Front Page Challenge*, *The Odyssey*, and both *Da Vinci's Inquest* and *Da Vinci's City Hall* would have never made it on other networks—indeed, the *Da Vinci* series provided a basis for America's popular *CSI*, which garners high ratings on CTV. As well, the CBC has provided assistance with the production of many an American show, such as PBS's popular *Nova* series.

Last June, the Senate pushed to have commercials removed on CBC's over-the-air broadcasts altogether—

something I'm actually in full support of, as I believe it will set the network apart from the others. Take BBC, for example which is virtually ad-free, thanks to a unique funding structure whereby any television or radio purchased in the United Kingdom is subject to a one-time licensing fee.

This levy goes towards funding the services that the British broadcaster provides—services akin to those of our own Crown Corporation, but which also funds research and development for new broadcasting technologies.

With the amount of new electronics that we buy on a day-to-day basis, I'm certain the CBC could eventually wean itself off of ad revenue with such a fee in place. By not having commercials every five minutes, we could have more informative newscasts, higher-quality dramas and more in-depth documentaries.

The CBC provides us with more than just hockey and news, it provides us with culture too, thanks to its focus on Canadian content. So instead of contributing your time and, indirectly, money, to greedy and directionless private networks, consider giving a little love to the Mother Corp.

THURSDAYS

UNION 25¢

LO-BALL NIGHT

FRIDAYS

Ladies Night

SATURDAYS

TNT SATURDAYS

ROLL IN

ROCK OUT

AT

UNION HALL

Argyll & 99 Street · 702-2582
unionhall.ca